This is a reproduction of a library book that was digitized by Google as part of an ongoing effort to preserve the information in books and make it universally accessible.

Google™ books

https://books.google.com

WIDENER
HN ZSWB H

Br 229.170.7

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

1920

Regimental Annual

THE SHERWOOD FORESTERS

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE AND DERBYSHIRE REGIMENT

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

COLONEL H. B. HAYWARD
COMMANDING 45TH REGIMENT
1880–1885

Frontispiece

Digitized by Google

1920

Regimental Annual

THE SHERWOOD FORESTERS

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE AND DERBYSHIRE REGIMENT

EDITED BY

COLONEL H. C. WYLLY, C.B.

"To set the Cause above Renown,
To love the Game beyond the Prize."

HENRY NEWBOLT.

LONDON
GEORGE ALLEN & UNWIN, LTD.
RUSKIN HOUSE, 40 MUSEUM STREET, W.C. 1
1920

Digitized by Google

Br 229.170.7

Digitized by Google

CONTENTS

		PAGE
I.	FOREWORD	1
II.	OUR DEAD	3
III.	1ST BATTALION NOTES	5
IV.	2ND BATTALION NOTES	11
V.	DEPOT NOTES	15
VI.	3RD BATTALION NOTES	20
VII.	5TH BATTALION NOTES	23
VIII.	6TH BATTALION NOTES	25
IX.	7TH BATTALION NOTES	39
X.	8TH BATTALION NOTES	46
XI.	2/8TH BATTALION NOTES	57
XII.	3/8TH BATTALION NOTES	62
XIII.	SERVICES OF RETIRED OFFICERS DURING THE WAR	64
XIV.	THINGS THAT MATTER	66
XV.	WHERE ARE THE BOYS OF THE OLD BRIGADE?	73
XVI.	EX-SERGT-MAJOR C. D. RANDALL, D.C.M.	82
XVII.	MALTA IN 1889	86
XVIII.	PRISONERS AND CAPTIVES	95
XIX.	COLONELS OF THE 45TH	97
XX.	COLONELS OF THE 95TH	99
XXI.	SKETCHES OF THE 45TH REGIMENT	106
XXII.	THE LATE SERGEANT COGAN, 95TH	107
XXIII.	OBITUARY	109
XXIV.	OLD COMRADES' ASSOCIATION	110

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

Colonel H. B. Hayward, Commanding 45th Regiment	*Frontispiece*	
The Derby Ram, 2nd Battalion . .	*facing page*	12
Football Team, 2nd Battalion . .	„	14
Colonel Goodman and Some Officers 6th Battalion, at Kemmel . .	„	28
The 6th Battalion Resting after a Tour in the Salient . . .	„	28
The Late Ex-Sergeant-Major Randall, D.C.M.	„	82
The Late Sergeant Cogan, 95th Regiment	„	108
The Late Quartermaster Ewin, D.C.M.	„	120

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

REGIMENTAL ANNUAL

I

FOREWORD

IT is with genuine feelings of gratitude to those who for love of their old Corps have agreed to devote much valuable time to reviving the Regimental Annual that I take up my pen to write a brief foreword.

The first Annual appeared in 1909, its aim and object being to interest each Battalion of the Regiment in the doings of the others. It was so successful that it was followed by one each year until 1914 inclusive. Since then it has been suspended, for obvious reasons. The old Battalion newspaper was a most useful institution, and tended greatly to inculcate Battalion esprit de corps; but as years rolled on and interchanges amongst individuals in the two regular battalions became more frequent, and later still when all battalions bearing the name "Sherwood Forester" became part of our distinguished Regiment, it was felt that one publication each year describing the salient doings of all battalions would be the best possible instrument for welding together all who had the honour of being Sherwood Foresters.

Speaking for myself as one who has long ceased to serve with a battalion, this Regimental Annual enables me to keep in touch with the doings of all battalions, and I believe it does the same for all no longer employed in regimental life. But the Annual does a more important work than that, for it tells the serving officers and men, especially the younger ones, that there are other battalions of Sherwood Foresters and of their doings. It is there they hear where the other battalions are quartered throughout the world, of their military skill and efficiency, of their activities in the world of sport and games, of their Battalion organisations and, further,

Digitized by Google

of doings in the regimental counties of Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire. It is probably in its pages that many will hear for the first time of that grand institution the Old Comrades' Association, which holds together in civil life all who have ever served in the Regiment and helps those who are in need of help.

Lastly, and by no means of least importance, it is in the pages of the Annual that they read stories of glorious deeds in battle and receive inspirations to follow noble examples and to determine that, whether in peace or war, they must leave no stone unturned to prove themselves worthy of a Regiment with such a past.

I have already written at greater length than I had intended, but I am apt to be carried away when on the subject of anything which may increase the prestige of the old Regiment, and this I consider the Annual is bound to do.

How one has thrilled with pride at the accounts of the marvellous deeds of heroism performed by Sherwood Foresters in the Great War so lately finished, and with never having to hear of any regrettable incident to tarnish the honoured name! That name "Sherwood Forester" has always gone "up," and never "down," and the more battalions know of each other the greater will be the emulation to keep it bright.

H. L. SMITH-DORRIEN, General,
Colonel, the Sherwood Foresters
(Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire Regiment).

GIBRALTAR, *May*, 1920.

Digitized by Google

II

OUR DEAD

"CONSIDER the thousands of brave English people that have been consumed by sea and land within these last few years. . . . In truth, they were young Gentlemen, Yeomen and Yeomen's sons, and Artificers of the most brave sort, such as went voluntarily to serve of a gaiety and joyalty of mind; all which kind of people are the Flower and Force of a Kingdom."—SIR JOHN SMYTH *to* LORD BURGHLEY, *on our men in Flanders in* 1589–90.

BATTALION.	NUMBER.	BATTALION.	NUMBER.
Depot	80	20th Battn. ..	10
1st Garr. Battn.	21	51st ,, ..	3
1st Battn. ..	1321	52nd ,, ..	13
2nd ,, ..	1283	53rd ,, ..	32
3rd ,, ..	71	5th T.F. Battn. ..	24
4th ,, ..	17	1/5th ,, ..	689
9th ,, ..	724	2/5th ,, ..	393
10th ,, ..	1098	6th ,, ..	18
11th ,, ..	656	1/6th ,, ..	423
12th ,, ..	202	2/6th ,, ..	385
13th ,, ..	31	7th ,, ..	103
14th ,, ..	5	1/7th ,, ..	426
15th ,, ..	623	2/7th ,, ..	358
16th ,, ..	579	8th ,, ..	66
17th ,, ..	526	1/8th ,, ..	441
18th ,, ..	1	2/8th ,, ..	253
19th ,, ..	3		—
TOTAL		.. ..	10878

"Surely they sleep content, our valiant Dead,
Fallen untimely in the savage strife,
They have but followed whither duty led,
To find a fuller Life.

Digitized by Google

Who then are we to grudge the bitter price
Of this our land, inviolate through the years,
Or mar the splendour of their Sacrifice
That is too high for tears ?

God grant we fail not at the test, that when
We take, mayhap, our places in the fray,
Come life, come death, we quit ourselves like men,
The peers of such as they."

From " Happy Warriors," by A. L. Jenkins.
By kind permission of Messrs. Sidgwick and Jackson.

Digitized by Google

III

1ST BATTALION NOTES

AFTER the Armistice the cadre of the Battalion left Ath, in Belgium, under the command of Lt.-Col. J. D. Mitchell, M.C., on the 8th May, 1919, and proceeded to the Depot at Derby, where a month's dispersal leave was given. The cadre remained at the Depot until the 24th September, 1919, when it moved, under the command of Major E. N. T. Collin, to Great Crosby, near Liverpool, and occupied the same camp at Moor Lane as the 3rd Battalion.

In accordance with the scheme for the re-formation of Regular Battalions, the Battalion absorbed the 3rd Battalion on the 18th October, 1919.

The Battalion remained at Great Crosby until the 28th November, and during this time a large number of officers and men who were due for demobilisation were demobilised.

On the 28th November the Battalion moved from Great Crosby to Blackdown under the command of Major L. St. H. Morley, D.S.O., and on arrival was quartered in Dettingen Barracks. Arrangements were immediately made to unpack all the heavy baggage which had been untouched since the Battalion left Bombay in 1914, as it was understood that the Battalion would remain at Blackdown for at least six months. But before the work was much advanced orders were received for the Battalion to be prepared to move early in January to the Plebiscite Area in Schleswig-Holstein.

On the 15th December, Col. J. C. Harding Newman, C.B., C.M.G., took over command of the Battalion on transfer from the Essex Regiment. Every man who was medically fit to proceed to the Plebiscite Area was given fourteen days' embarkation leave, and by 15th January had returned, and the Battalion was awaiting final orders for embarkation.

On the 22nd January the Battalion moved from Frimley station by special train for Southampton, leaving about 200

Digitized by Google

men medically unfit at Blackdown. On arrival at Southampton, the Battalion embarked immediately in s.s. *Edward Woerman*, the heavy baggage having been sent down two days in advance and already loaded on the arrival of the Battalion. The next morning the transport set sail from Southampton Water, and at about midday on the 25th January arrived at Brunsbüttel, the western entrance to the Kiel Canal.

Next morning the canal was entered, and the whole day was occupied in the passage of the canal, the transport anchoring in Kiel harbour on the evening of the 26th. The journey was resumed on the 27th, and the transport was berthed alongside the quay at Murwik, a suburb of Flensburg, at about 3 p.m. that day. The next day the Battalion disembarked and occupied quarters in the German Naval Academy, a very fine building which had been completed just before the war.

The following officers embarked with the Battalion :—

Lt.-Col. (Bt. Col.) J. C. Harding Newman, C.B., C.M.G.
Major J. H. Wybergh.
„ J. H. Mathias, O.B.E.
„ E. N. T. Collin.
Capt. and Adjt. R. B. Tower, M.C.
Capt. D. H. Riddell, M.G.C. (Educational Officer).
Lieut. C. R. Chambers, M.C., D.C.M.
„ A. C. Willison, D.S.O., M.C.
„ C. H. G. Millis, D.S.O., M.C.
„ W. Weston, M.C., D.C.M.
„ E. J. H. Bowler.
„ J. R. Brittan.
„ R. H. Wathes.
„ J. E. Hardy.
„ H. E. R. Twamley.
„ H. H. Robinson.
„ H. C. V. Warneford, M.C.
„ S. Gregory.
„ T. J. Sellis, M.C.
„ L. A. B. Beecher.
„ T. Mason.
Capt. and Qr.-Mr. W. Booker.
Rev. Captain R. P. Rowan, Army Chaplain (attached).
Capt. W. D. Ball, R.A.M.C. (attached).

Digitized by Google

A large number of stores were taken out in the transport for the Battalion and No. 2 C.C.S., which formed part of the forces, and the first ten days were chiefly devoted to unloading these stores and putting them in various warehouses in proximity to the quay.

It was soon learnt that the chief duty of the Battalion during its stay in the Plebiscite Area was the provision of various guards in the town of Flensburg and small detachments in the surrounding districts, and on the 2nd February B Company marched into Flensburg with the band and drums and mounted a guard over the Flensburg Hof, where the International Commission were lodged, and another guard at Oest Kaserne. The guard at Flensburg Hof was relieved daily at 11 a.m. with much ceremony, at which hour the British, French, Norwegian, and Swedish flags were hoisted over the hotel.

That portion of Schleswig-Holstein which was in dispute, and whose fate was to be decided by a plebiscite, was divided into two zones. The northern zone was the larger as regards territory; but the southern, which included the town of Flensburg, was the most important from a commercial point of view.

The voting in the northern zone was fixed to take place on February 10th, and that in the southern zone on March 14th. During the voting in the northern area a detachment was found at Tondern by D Company under the command of Lieut. Chambers, M.C., D.C.M., and another detachment at Apenrade was found by C Company under the command of Lieut. Willison, D.S.O., M.C.

There were no disturbances during the voting in the northern zone, and the result of the voting was a 75 per cent majority in favour of Danish rule.

Up to date we had not met any of our French allies who were also finding detachments in other parts of the northern zone, but on the 25th February the 22nd Chasseurs Alpins arrived in Flensburg from Sonderburg and were welcomed by a guard of honour found by the Battalion, which was commanded by Lieut. Willison, D.S.O., M.C., with Lieut. Mason carrying the Regimental Colour.

On the same day a platoon of D Company was sent to the island of Sylt, on the western coast of Schleswig-Holstein, as

Digitized by Google

it was rumoured that the Germans still had a number of serviceable guns there. This detachment was billeted in one of the large hotels in the town of Westmorland on the island.

On the 29th February Rear-Admiral T. D. L. Sheppard, C.B., M.V.O., who was commanding the International Forces, was promoted Vice-Admiral and hoisted his Flag in his flagship, H.M.S. *Carysfort*. On this day the first German demonstration was held in Flensburg, and two platoons of D Company, which had returned from Tondern, Leck, and the island of Sylt, were sent into the town of Flensburg to prevent any disorder.

This procedure was adopted nearly every Sunday for several weeks, as the Germans appeared to have a weakness for Sunday demonstrations.

During the plebiscite in the southern zone, which was taken on March 14th, the Battalion played an important part.

On the 13th three small detachments of ten men under the command of Lieuts. Brittan, Twamley, and Sellis were sent out to the Ringsburg, Frorup, and Lindewitt to supervise the voting, and on the same day the Battalion moved into Flensburg to patrol the streets and keep order during the voting, and was quartered in St. Nicholas Schools. The Officers' Mess was established at the Flensburg Hof, where the senior officers were also billeted. The chief duty of the Battalion during this time was to place pickets at the railway station, as a large number of out voters were continuously arriving by train from other parts of Germany. There were no disturbances, and the only time when the police called for assistance was on the evening of the 14th March, when they thought that they would be unable to deal with the crowd. Two platoons were sent down from billets and the crowd dispersed. During the taking of this plebiscite A Company was on detachment at Tondern, with outlying platoons at Leck, Niebull, and the island of Sylt; but by the 18th A Company had returned to head-quarters at Murwik, the Battalion having returned from the town of Flensburg on the 16th and 17th.

No sooner had the plebiscite in the second zone been taken than the Kapp revolution broke out in Germany, and it was reported that a force of Kapp revolutionists was concentrating near Hamburg, with a view to advancing on Flensburg.

Digitized by Google

It was therefore decided to send three small outposts out on the main roads on the southern boundary of the southern zone and on the 20th three detachments, under Lieuts. Mason, Warneford, and Sellis, moved out to Oversee, Neu, and Stedesend.

During the war there had been a prisoners-of-war camp at Flensburg, and on the 24th March a Memorial Service was held and a monument unveiled to the French prisoners who died during captivity in this camp. The service was attended by a party from the Battalion under the command of Lieut. Robinson.

On the 26th March, Vice-Admiral T. D. L. Sheppard, Col. J. C. Harding Newman, Col. Butler, and Col. Trew were enrolled in the ranks of the 22nd Chasseurs Alpins. The Vice-Admiral was made a sergeant, and the remaining officers corporals.

The " fouragère " of the Regiment, rank badges, and caps were presented on parade, and after the recipients had been embraced by Commandant du Soyer they took their places in the sections of the Chasseurs to which they had been appointed.

As there had been no time to practise, it was not possible to troop the Colours on Badajos day (April 6th) this year. But the Battalion paraded and saluted the Colours decorated with laurel wreaths, the remainder of the day being observed as a holiday. Major Swinhoe-Phelan arrived with a draft of twenty other ranks on April 11th, and these were the only reinforcements received by the Battalion during its stay in Schleswig-Holstein.

It was now a month since the plebiscite in the southern zone had been taken, with a 75 per cent majority in favour of German rule, but nothing definite regarding the length of our stay in Schleswig had been arrived at, and doubts were expressed as to our returning to England before the end of the summer. This state of uncertainty continued until the 29th May, when it was learnt that we should leave about the middle of June.

During the stay of the Battalion at Flensburg the Danish Government asked to be allowed to fête the Allied Forces in Copenhagen. The French troops went to Copenhagen first and returned before leaving finally for the south of France,

Digitized by Google

and the Battalion left Flensburg on June 15th for Copenhagen *en route* for England. On arrival at Copenhagen on the 16th we learnt that the Danes had arranged an elaborate programme in our honour.

On the 17th the Battalion marched with the Naval ratings from His Majesty's ships to the Rosenburg Barracks, where the Forces were reviewed by His Majesty the King of Denmark. After this review the Forces marched through crowded streets and were entertained to luncheon at the Houses of Parliament. In the evening several of the officers had the honour of dining with the King, and the remainder of the Battalion were entertained at the Tivoli Gardens. On the next day the officers visited the stores of the Royal Porcelain Factory, and each officer received a small souvenir. It was impossible to see any of the celebrated porcelain being made owing to a strike amongst the workers. The Battalion was entertained to luncheon by the Reception Committee in a gymnasium close to the sports ground, and a football match was played before lunch between a mixed team found by H.M.S. *Carysfort* and the Battalion against a Danish team, with the unfortunate result that the match resulted in a victory for the Danes. In the evening the officers and warrant officers were entertained at a banquet in the Town Hall given by the four main trades of Denmark. The men were also entertained to supper in the same building. The evening finished with a very excellent concert, accompanied by dancing by the Copenhagen Ballet.

At 7 a.m. on the morning of the 20th June the Battalion sailed in H.M.T. *Steigerwald* for England. Before leaving a commemorative medal presented by the King of Denmark was issued to each man.

The Battalion arrived at Southampton on the 22nd June, landed immediately, and proceeded by special train to Farnborough station, whence it marched to its home station at Blackdown.

Digitized by Google

IV

2ND BATTALION NOTES

IT is a little difficult to realise that the Battalion is once again on a peace footing and starting on a foreign tour of service—following, too, in the footsteps of our predecessors when the Battalion started on its last tour of service abroad. Many of us have been down to Mex and visited the scene of the Battalion's exploits in the 1882 war, but we have a long lane to follow before we can hope to reach the standard that they set us.

On the return of the nucleus from Germany at the beginning of last year, what was left of the Battalion went in the first place to Woking, where the process of demobilisation was commenced, and when the Battalion moved to Clipstone Camp in April it consisted of only 2 officers and 10 men. Owing to the fact that the re-forming of the Battalion took place in its own county, where for the first time in its history it found itself quartered, recruiting was made easy, and in a very short time the men necessary to bring the Battalion up to strength had joined; in fact, we were able to pick and choose, and when we left for Egypt in the autumn it consisted of as fine a body of men as anyone could wish to see. Lt.-Col. R. Taylor, Major F. Tomlinson, who had never left the Battalion, and latterly Capts. Needham and Shawcross, are the only officers now serving with the Battalion of all those who marched out of Sheffield in 1914; whilst of the warrant officers, N.C.O.'s, and men we still have with us R.Q.M.S. W. Noble, Sergt. E. Lounds, Sergt. G. Wilson, and Pte. Joyce, who served continuously with the Battalion throughout the whole campaign; also Regt.-Sergt.-Maj. F. Hobbs, C.Q.M.S. Howarth, C.S.M. W. Laws, Sergts. G. Oakes, A. Adams, J. Doughty, F. Daykin, W. Berral, A. Goddard, W. Parker, W. Jennings, P. Tingle, A. Young,

Digitized by Google

Lce.-Corpl. J. Tucker, Ptes. J. Hallows, G. Wagstaffe, J. Collings.

Our life at Clipstone was spent in reorganising, in training and in restarting the various regimental institutions and clubs which had necessarily lapsed during the war. The baggage was sent for, not having been seen since it was packed up at Sheffield, and arrived in a deplorable condition, due to the haste in which it had been packed, and the Officers' Mess, the Sergeants' Mess, and the P.R.I. had an unpleasant lot of breakages and deficiencies to replace. It was a sad task, too, going through the kits of all those that had given their lives for their country, but eventually all was sorted out and the various messes and institutes started again.

The band rejoined after a life of ease in which they had almost forgotten how to play, and still minus all the instruments that were loaned to Kneller Hall for the formation of the divisional bands in France, and the drums started once more under Sergt.-Drummer Shipman. The Duke of Devonshire kindly presented us with a splendid young ram, a worthy successor to " Derby," but unfortunately he joined just too late to be able to make arrangements for him to accompany the Battalion abroad, and he eventually turned up with the married families in December. There was much speculation as to what our destination was to be, but finally we got orders to embark for Egypt. Owing to ship shortage, the journey had to be via France instead of by long sea, and we found ourselves once more at Boulogne on our way to Marseilles, whence we were to embark for Alexandria. All who made it will remember the train journey, and the destruction of the baggage was completed before our destination was reached. No wonder—180 tons, and handled eight times *en route!* Chinese labourers and German prisoners, who are no respecters of property, appeared to take a pleasure in seeing how much damage they could do, and the baggage party seemed quite helpless, their efforts at control being laughed at.

The journey from Boulogne to Marseilles took three days instead of thirty-six hours, nine hours being spent in a siding just outside Paris, owing to a strike by the engine-drivers; fortunately, half-way we found a train with someone else's rations on board—these were misappropriated, otherwise the

Digitized by Google

THE DERBY RAM, 2ND BATTALION

Facing page 12

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

journey would have been a hungry one. Three days were spent in a rest camp at Marseilles before embarking for Egypt in H.M.T. *Ekma*, very crowded but quite comfortable, and the ship's officers did all they could to help us. Fortunately, the weather was fine, and again there was much speculation as to where we were to be quartered. Our old Plymouth friends, the Middlesex Regiment, were just in front of us, also bound for Egypt, and we thought that they might get the best quarters, as they would arrive a day before us. It was not until Alexandria was reached that we heard that the Battalion was to remain there, the "Die Hards" going on to Cairo. The barracks at Moustapha Pasha was our destination, where we were told that we should occupy the hutments; but after a hot and dusty march through the town we found on arrival that we were to go under canvas, as the Army Printing and Stationery Department were in occupation of the huts. They had been there for four years and were loath to turn out; in fact, it was not until December that we finally took over our permanent quarters. Our hopes of being able to get the Battalion together and of giving us a chance to get everything going once more were sadly dissipated, for one company was almost immediately sent off to Cyprus on detachment under the command of Lt.-Col. Dumbell, D.S.O., and the guards and duties absorbed almost every other man. The Battalion has been further depleted by the taking away of a large number of men to replace men who have been demobilised and to meet the needs of the departmental corps who have not been able to fill their ranks with recruits.

Almost one of our first duties here lay in our being called out in aid of the civil power during the disturbances in October and November, when the men showed that wonderful forbearance under very trying circumstances which is the characteristic of the British soldier. The new Battalion is showing as great an aptitude for sports as its predecessors, our football team—all new hands except Sergt. Jennings and the evergreen Joyce, both playing as well as ever—has reached the final in the Sultan's Cup, open to all Egypt, in the semi-final defeating a very strong civilian team from Cairo. We are also top of the district league, and as such have to play off for the Cup the winners of the Cairo League; whilst in the Robert Hughes Cup we have reached the semi-final also. All these

Digitized by Google

cups will, we hope, come our way. In order that as much football as possible may be played in the Battalion, a platoon league has been started which has been a great success and in which the men show great interest. At hockey, too, the team is at the top of the league, and the game has at last taken a hold in the Battalion.

The Boxing Club has been revived, and now consists of over six hundred members. To stimulate boxing and bring out new boxers, an inter-company Novices' Boxing Competition has been started, and the winners of the first competition were B, or Capt. J. Douglas's, Company. Brig.-Gen. W. Blake kindly presented a cup to be competed for annually. A most successful meeting was given by the club in the skating rink, in which events open to the E.E.F. were competed for. Though the Battalion did not win anything, the men put up a very good show, and no doubt, under the able direction of Lieut. March and Ptes. Singleton and Chambers, will rapidly improve.

Lt.-Col. H. Milward has undertaken the instruction of the young officers in equitation and in polo, and reports that the material is very promising; but facilities for polo are not very great here, at all events, for beginners, and ponies are difficult to get hold of and very expensive.

Altogether the Battalion seems in a fair way to uphold the sporting traditions of the Regiment.

In conclusion, we are all looking forward to the arrival of the Annual, and wish it a long and uninterrupted life.

Digitized by Google

FOOTBALL TEAM, 2ND BATTALION

Facing page 14

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

V

DEPOT NOTES

AUGUST 5th, 1914.—At one bound the Depot leapt from peace time serenity to war time activity. The 3rd Battalion had got its orders to mobilise at Derby; the 4th Battalion at Newark. Mobilisation was well under way by nightfall on the eventful 5th. Those reservists of the 3rd Battalion who lived in the vicinity were already in barracks and clothed in their war kit. Army Reservists were rolling up in hundreds. As they arrived they were taken to the mobilisation store, where they were issued with complete sets of clothing and equipment; and as conducting parties from the 2nd Battalion arrived they were sent off to join the home Battalion at Sheffield. It was like old times to see the familiar faces in uniform once more, and many were the reminiscences talked over in snatches. Alas, many hundreds of those gallant fellows are now lying on the Marne and the various battlefields of the world.

The present writer, who was posted to the new Armies on the night of the 7th August, 1914, was present when the 3rd Battalion paraded on the square and marched away to their war station in two parties—the right half under the command of Major (now Lt.-Col.) H. E. Disbrowe Wise, O.B.E., and the left half under Lt.-Col. E. C. Heath, C.O., and he can picture Col. Heath standing on the brickwork of the firing position on the square, delivering the speech to the Battalion: "Officers and men of the 3rd Battalion, I have often preached to you of the Great War which I knew was to come. Many of you, I know, doubted me at the time, but events have proved that I was right, and to-night you are going to embark upon one of the greatest wars in history. I feel confident, however, that wherever you may get called to from the Reserve Battalion, I know that you will acquit yourselves

Digitized by Google

nobly." How true those words were history can tell. The men of the Reserve Battalion bore themselves nobly on many fields, gained many honours, and many also found a hero's grave.

After the 3rd Battalion had departed there were still stirring times ahead for the Depot. At eight o'clock on the morning of the 9th August, in response to Lord Kitchener's appeal, old soldiers began to arrive for re-enlistment for one year, recruits for K. of K.'s Army for three years, and men for normal engagements. At one period in August, about the 14th or 15th, there were five thousand men in the Depot. These were formed into the first Service Battalion (the 9th); then the 10th, 11th, and 12th Battalions were formed, beside sending large drafts to the 3rd and 4th Battalions, as well as a large party to the Royal Marines (the party was afterwards to take part in the Antwerp affair) and other regiments too numerous to mention.

As the war progressed, the Depot became a Lt.-Col.'s command, and was under Lt.-Col. J. A. Reeks, with Major W. H. Climo as Adjutant, Major F. Tyler, who had gone on well-earned retirement, as Quartermaster, together with a staff of boys of the Old Brigade, who had come forward to assist in raising the New Armies. The work they performed was, in the words of Domini Sampson, "prodigious."

The difficulty of fitting out and equipping men who enlisted was at length overcome, and as supplies of clothing, etc., came along it was possible to quickly get men away to the Reserve Battalion for training.

Then came the time when the casualties from the various Fronts began to arrive. These had to be accounted for, taken on strength, granted furlough from hospital, paid, re-clothed, and despatched when fit to join the Reserve Battalion once more. No Class "A" man could remain in the Depot longer than forty-eight hours.

How many thousands of recruits passed through the Depot in the early years of the war it is not quite possible to state, but the number was enormous.

Digitized by Google

Notes by ex-R.Q.M.S. GLOVER.

The work at the Depot, especially in relation to the clothing of recruits, was in the earliest days of the war greatly facilitated by the arrival of thirty or forty policemen, who had been service men and who had left to join the various police forces. The men who helped at this Depot were from the County Constabulary of Notts and Derbyshire, and also a few from the Metropolitan Police Force. These men stepped into the breach just when most needed and at the very busiest time in the whole of the period, and did some real good work by keeping the crowds of men in order and assisting in every possible way to keep things on the move—and that did take a bit of doing in those days. Quite a number of these policemen afterwards joined the Service Battalions and did some good work there also, and some of them obtained commissions.

It is quite impossible to state exactly how many recruits passed through the Depot during the whole of the war period, but the number was very great; and the work of clothing these men, who were of all sorts and conditions, from the small little jockey, who required only size 3 boots, to the 6 ft. 7 in. schoolmaster, who wanted size 13 in boots—all came in their turn and all had to be fitted, with the least delay, at the busiest part of the period. The numbers who were clothed daily very often exceeded 200, and the highest record reached for one day's work was 315, and for seven consecutive days 1800 men were passed through the clothing store at the Depot, commencing at first with those keenest of recruits who flocked for service in the early days of the war, and finishing with those who were called up under the Military Service Acts, not forgetting the "conchies," who wanted kits for Wormwood Scrubbs in preference to anywhere else. Many of the recruits came back for refitting—some two, and some even three times during the five years of the war. Alas, a great number never came back at all, and never will; and now it is all over and done with, and the Depot has once more assumed its quietness as of old, one often thinks of those strenuous times when everything was done in a hurry and the work seemed absolutely endless.

In December, 1917, Major C. R. Mortimore, D.S.O., who,

Digitized by Google

after being severely wounded while in command of the 1st Battalion at Neuve Chapelle, had recovered sufficiently to be classified fit for light duty, was given command vice Lt.-Col. J. A. Reeks, who went to well-earned retirement. There was still a heavy responsibility thrown on the O.C. Depot. The Military Service Act being in vogue, men had to be brought in and classified according to age and medical condition and despatched to various centres. This work continued until the Armistice in November 1918, when another phase of work had to be undertaken, namely, the receiving of repatriated prisoners of war and accounting for all the men of the different Expeditionary Forces who were in various hospitals in the United Kingdom. Before going any further, I may say that there are now over one hundred of these still on the strength of the Depot, mostly cases of men who are awaiting admission to Roehampton Hospital for the fitting of artificial limbs, etc.

The repatriated prisoners of war have now all been practically dealt with, the majority of whom, not being demobilisable, were posted to the Home Service unit, namely, the 1st Battalion.

In the early days of demobilisation hundreds of coal miners and pivotal men passed through the Depot before proceeding to their homes.

The Depot also dealt with agricultural companies and men who were sent on farm furloughs.

Early in February, 1919, Major Mortimore received orders to prepare the personnel of the Foreign Service details (i.e. the 2nd Battalion). The cadre of that Battalion had not yet reached England, having for a time been detained for duty with the Army of Occupation on the Rhine.

The first party, consisting of Major J. Price Wylie, D.S.O., as C.O., Major J. W. J. Millar, D.S.O., D.C.M., as Adjutant, and R.S.M. Peterkin, M.C., as Acting Quartermaster, proceeded to Woking on February 25th. They only stayed there a little while, when they were ordered to proceed to Clipstone Camp on the 7th April, 1919.

As all regular soldiers arrived at the Depot from demobilisation leave they were posted to the Foreign Service details.

Demobilisation being now in full swing, the Depot was still a scene of activity. Officers and men of all battalions passed

Digitized by Google

through the process of demobilisation and once more back to civil life. Men who had accepted the terms of Army Order 4 of 1919 were beginning to arrive from their two or three months' furlough, and in a very short space of time the Foreign Service Battalion was made up to strength from the Depot and the Reserve Battalion, and awaited its orders to proceed to Egypt.

The cadres of the 1st, 2nd, 9th, 10th, 11th, and 16th Battalions arrived here. They were given a civic reception by the town of Derby and sent away to Ripon for dispersal.

On the 25th October, 1919, the Depot, after five years of war establishment, once more came to a peace-time footing. The ordinary war establishment had nearly all been demobilised and a permanent staff was posted from the home Battalion (the 1st Battalion), and the Depot was then open once more for the training of recruits.

The Recruiting Officer had been removed to St. Mary's Gate, Derby, under the new recruiting scheme, and was under the sole charge of Captain F. C. Parker and a picked staff. Recruits did not come along for the Regiment too quickly at first, but there has been a decided improvement lately. It is quite like old times now to hear the seasoned shout of the drill instructors' voices on the Square and to see the men picking up the " chop step."

On the 26th January, 1920, Major C. R. Mortimore, D.S.O., relinquished the command of the Depot in favour of Major C. D. Harvey, D.S.O., who had recently been in command of the 10th South Wales Borderers in France.

A few days prior to this Capt. and Brevet-Major C. E. Hudson, V.C., D.S.O., M.C., had been posted to the Depot for duty. On the 4th February, Major and Quartermaster F. Tyler reverted to unemployment after 5½ years of very arduous work as Quartermaster of the Depot. During the whole of that period he performed splendid work, and was never absent from his office for a single day. He was succeeded by Capt. F. A. W. Coman, M.C., from the 1st Battalion. Capt. and Brevet-Major Hudson, V.C., D.S.O., M.C., has now taken over the duties of Adjutant.

T. P. T. and J. H. G.

Digitized by Google

VI

3RD BATTALION NOTES

THE Battalion commenced to mobilise at Derby on Monday, August 4th, 1914, after having only just previously completed the annual training at Chilwell Camp, near Nottingham, when the strength was approximately 400. On Saturday, August 9th, the Battalion marched out 1200 strong to entrain for Plymouth. The Commanding Officer, Lt.-Col. E. C. Heath, made a stirring speech, after prayers had been offered by the Vicar of Normanton, and the spirit of the Sherwood Foresters was strikingly shown by the spontaneous outburst of cheering which greeted the Commanding Officer on his patriotic speech. The Battalion was first quartered in Prince Rock Schools, Plymouth, with detachments at Plymstock and Oreston, and its duties were to guard the approaches to the fortress. Recruits quickly made their appearance and many found old comrades in the ranks. The time was fully occupied in training recruits and engaging in field exercises for the trained men. Rumours were soon abroad that the Battalion was to go as one unit of a brigade to France, but these unfortunately proved false, and we settled down to the work of sending out drafts instead.

In October the Battalion was moved to Crownhill Barracks, and shortly after sent out the largest draft that was sent throughout the war. Five hundred other ranks, under Capt. Claud Hamilton, were sent to reinforce the 2nd Battalion, which had lately had heavy casualties. The day following the Battalion had to mourn the loss of a popular and gallant officer, Lieut. and Quartermaster Fielding.

Christmas was celebrated at Crownhill, D Company, recruits from the Mayor of Nottingham's Battalion, especially distinguishing themselves in the originality and variety of the decorations.

Digitized by Google

In May the Battalion was moved to Sunderland, where it remained until after the Armistice. Its duties were to guard about 1½ miles of coast-line, including Whitburn Bay, which was supposed to be a vulnerable spot. During the whole of that time the Battalion was scattered, some companies being quartered in Sunderland, others in dug-outs and billets along the coast, others at Whitburn and Cleadon villages, and one detachment for some time was at South Shields. Latterly hutments were built at Cleadon and Seaburn. Recruits were constantly coming in and drafts as constantly being sent out, the Battalion varying in strength from 3500 to 1200, with generally about 150 officers. Sports were made a prominent feature of the training, and in 1916 we had the good fortune to win the cross-country race at Aldershot open to the whole of the Home Army. The following composed the winning team: C.S.M. Bayes, Sergts. Wright, Caldwell, Wallis, Corpl. Willis, and Lce.-Corpl. Dunstan.

As the war dragged on, the wounded began to come back to the Battalion; men from all sorts of corps were also posted; while recruits were constantly being sent to train. The largest batch of recruits sent was in 1918, just after the last German offensive, when 1400 miners were sent for training. Throughout the whole of their stay in Plymouth and Sunderland the behaviour of all ranks was excellent, and the Battalion gained a very good name.

We had a very fair football team from time to time, and some enthusiastic spirits endeavoured to revive interest in the Rugby game. Their efforts were not, however, crowned with much success, and they had to acknowledge defeat by sometimes as much as 50 points to nil; but the spirit was there, and that was the great thing. At cricket we managed to win the Section League in 1919, thanks mainly to the excellent bowling of Lieut. Flint, M.C., and Sergt. Richmond, backed up by fair batting and good fielding.

A word of praise must be given to the company officers and their training staffs, who worked under great difficulties and generally at high pressure; while the orderly room work, first under Capt. Harvey (whom we congratulate on his D.S.O.) and latterly under Capt. Richards, was first-rate.

Capt. and Quartermaster J. Wright and his staff also did excellent work, and supplies of every sort were always forth-

Digitized by Google

coming when needed. We are very glad to learn that Capt. Wright is improving in health, and we hope he may have many years in which to enjoy his well-earned pension. The band, under Sergt.-Dr. Jones, was a great asset to the Battalion and gave much pleasure to Sunderland and neighbourhood by the concerts which it gave from time to time. It was a great help, too, on the line of march, and helped to keep us all cheerful under sometimes trying circumstances.

Throughout the war we had to mourn the loss of many good comrades and friends, but, true to the traditions of the Regiment, they gave their lives fearlessly, and the country honours them. It is hoped to put up a memorial tablet in All Saints, Derby, and a church in Nottingham in memory of the fallen.

We were delighted to hear that Lt.-Col. Heath won the D.S.O. for gallantry in the field. The excellence of his defence schemes will long be remembered in the annals of Sunderland and of No. 1 Section, Tyne Garrison, to which the Battalion belonged.

After the Armistice the Battalion was moved to Liverpool, where it took an active part in quelling the riots. In October, 1919, it was absorbed into the 1st Battalion, the permanent cadre returning to Derby.

We are very glad to learn that the efforts of the Special Reserve have at last received official recognition, and that it is in future to be known by its old name of Militia and will still have a place in the reserve line.

The Battalion ram, Billy III, is now enjoying a quiet summer at Walton. He was on parade at Derby at the Memorial Service a short time back, but this is his only official appearance since demobilisation.

Digitized by Google

VII

5TH BATTALION NOTES

FROM the date on which recruiting began the re-formation of the 5th (one had almost written the reafforestation) became a progressive and successful operation.

The area from which the 5th Battalion is drawn is that of South and East Derbyshire, and consists of a network of towns and villages, each a small centre of the active and industrial life of the Midlands, and therefore each offering scope for the efforts of the Recruiting Office. The Commanding Officer (Lieut.-Col. T. C. Newbold, D.S.O., T.D.), with a few officers and permanent staff, soon got to work.

Company head-quarters and areas were fixed, and notices being inserted in the local papers, "Attestation" became the regular evening employment of the nucleus of the Battalion.

We had been told by the usual pessimist that no one wanted any more soldiering in these days, but the gallant record of the 46th and 59th Divisions (North Midland) is not forgotten by these men of Derbyshire, and it was plain that in the minds of many of those who came forward a proud remembrance of their brothers, who had gone before and given all, and a sense of duty derived from a magnificent example, were real and moving factors.

It was not long before a supply of boots, clothing, and rifles came to hand.

The fitting of equipment, elementary drill of recruits, the making of N.C.O.'s, and general organisation took up the time which remained prior to going into camp.

On August 1st, 1920, 16 officers and 380 other ranks entrained for camp, which was situated on the North Shore, Scarborough. Here the Battalion was brigaded with the 6th, 7th, and 8th Battalions, under the command of Col. Goodman,

Digitized by Google

C.M.G., D.S.O., and began a thorough and systematic organisation.

The " germ " or essence of training was the establishment of the " section " as a complete unit having a definite commander and capable of independent action. Platoon commanders were trained in a similar manner to command their platoons as a self-contained unit by making their own programmes of training.

By establishment of conferences with their section commanders, a chain of responsibility and command was completed, from the Commanding Officer to the smallest unit.

Each section commander was allotted a short period each day in which he exercised his own command independently. In this way the framework of the Battalion was created and prepared for a future increase of strength and a more advanced training.

Afternoons were given up to organised games which were much enjoyed by all ranks. The genial Mayor of Derby (Councillor Eggleston) very kindly refereed on the occasion of the football match (Officers versus Sergeants), which ended in a victory for the Officers by 1—0.

The keenness of all ranks in camp on parade was very noteworthy, a difficult movement in ceremonial drill being performed as if the men had been together for months instead of days.

We must thank the ex-service men for the fine stiffening they afforded in the work performed (exactly half the Battalion had been overseas) ; but the recruits settled down like veterans, in spite of rain and mud, which at times was not inconsiderable, and when the morning of the 15th August arrived, and with it the hour of departure, they were all sorry to go.

Our strength has reached about 20 officers and 400 other ranks, and the business of the moment is the musketry course which all ranks must fire.

Digitized by Google

VIII

6TH BATTALION NOTES

LIKE its neighbours and Brigade companions, the 5th and 8th Battalions, the 6th has always been a scattered unit. Its area, extending as it does from Buxton and Whalley Bridge (almost on the borders of Manchester) to Staveley (which is within half a dozen miles or so of Sheffield), conveys something of the difficulties presented by mobilisation in 1914. Yet, so well had the scheme been thought out, that by the 10th of August, the specified six days from mobilisation date, the whole of " The Wild Men of the Peak " had marched into Chesterfield, their head-quarters, and been equipped with transport and supplies ready to march off to their war station. Considering that, with the exception of the Adjutant (Capt. S. F. M'I. Lomer, 60th Rifles) and half a dozen permanent staff N.C.O.'s, the whole of the Battalion were amateurs at this game of soldiering, this feat of mobilisation is little short of wonderful.

On August 10th, when Lt.-Col. J. Morton Clayton led the unit out of Chesterfield on the first stage of its war career, the general public in this part of the country began to realise the depth of the organisation which lay behind the Territorial Army, a Force which in no town in North Derbyshire except Chesterfield was represented by more than 150 men. But here now was a complete unit—half trained, perhaps, but still a unit with a soul of its own—which, having left its Colours in the safe keeping of the old parish church at Chesterfield was now on its way to war. The crowds who cheered were also permitted a smile and a joke at our transport. Little wonder, for it was a variegated collection. The furniture-remover's van, the brewer's dray, and the grocer's cart, even the farmer's wagon, found their place in the column—efficient enough for a start, if not very official looking. The horseflesh, at all events, was good.

Digitized by Google

The second-in-command of the Battalion at this time was Major G. D. Goodman, of Buxton, who ultimately took the unit overseas, and finally commanded a brigade of the Regular Army in France, a remarkable distinction for a Territorial officer, who already in 1914 was wearing the V.D. The junior Major was Major E. Hall, T.D., of Whalley Bridge, who afterwards commanded for a short time in France until his health gave way, but who is now again the Commanding Officer of the Battalion. Surg.-Major A. W. Shea, who remained with the 6th throughout the war, was also on that well-remembered march out of Chesterfield, mounted, as always, on the popular "Sceptre" (alias "No. 9"). We remember the Doctor because of his many waved farewells, which were all faithfully recorded by the cinematograph.

Passing over the period spent at Derby, the railway journey to Luton, and the training period of three months at Harpenden, we note that it was on 3rd October that Lt.-Col. Clayton was transferred to the command of the 6th (Reserve) Battalion, later known as the 2/6th, and Major Goodman took command, being gazetted Lt.-Col. eleven days later. The Battalion shared the hardships of the "Battle of Sundon," was reviewed by Lord Kitchener at Luton Hoo, and took part in the famous march from Harpenden to Harlow on the way to Braintree in November; and on 8th January, 1915, the old eight-company system gave place to that of four double companies. To bring this into effect, the Chesterfield and Staveley men were amalgamated to form "A" (Capt. A. J. Hopkins); Whalley Bridge and Chapel-en-le-Frith to form "B" (Capt. R. Saxby); Bakewell, Buxton and Ashbourne to form "C" (Capt. Edgar H. Heathcote); and Wirksworth, Matlock, and Clay Cross to form "D" (Major J. E. Blackwall). Then in February came the King's inspection of the North Midland Division at Hallingbury Park, Bishop's Stortford, the final sign that we were in for the real thing, and in the hush of the early morning of the 25th of February, in brilliant moonlight, the Battalion marched to the Braintree railway sidings and entrained for Southampton. And so across the Channel.

From the 5th to the 8th of March the 6th had their trench training at "Plug Street," under the wing of the Somerset Light Infantry and the 1st Rifle Brigade, and on the latter

Digitized by Google

date suffered their first casualty, Lce.-Corpl. Redfern, of Buxton, being killed by a bullet which passed through his heart whilst on a working party. The Battalion band—the first band, by the way, to cross from England with the British troops—had in the meantime been enlivening the people of Hazebrouck, where they played before the Prince of Wales and Sir John French. By this time the battle of Neuve Chapelle was opening, and after being attached (really in reserve for that battle) to General Gough's Second Cavalry Division, which was not called upon, a quiet period of a fortnight was spent at Neuve Berquin.

It was not until 7th April that the Battalion really took over trenches "on their own." This was at Kemmel, and although it was not an exciting time it was trying, for the enemy artillery was active, whilst our own seldom seemed to have ammunition enough to retaliate, which might have eased things for the men in the line. The bulk of the bad luck came to C Company, for a H.E. shell dropped in a trench held by Sergt. G. Dakin and twelve men, killing four and wounding one. Sergt. Dakin was commended for his coolness in dealing with the situation, the first time that such had arisen in the Battalion's history. The total casualties of the first tour were: 1 officer (Lieut. I. Davies) slightly wounded; 5 other ranks killed; 8 wounded.

On April 27th, when the R.E.'s charged a short gallery (for mining in this sector was general) and blew in a German working, a gallant rescue was effected by 2nd Lieut. H. F. Severne, of the 6th, who was mentioned in despatches for it. At the greatest risk he descended the mine shaft and brought out Lieut. Daniels, R.E., who had been overcome by the fumes, having gone down before these had been dissipated. 2nd Lieut. Severne, however, did not live to receive his "Mention," for a fortnight later this gallant young officer was killed whilst passing between two disconnected trenches in company with Major Blackwall and Lieut. G. Glossop, both, like himself, men well over six feet in height. Further misfortunes this month were the wiping out of a machine-gun team, including Sergt. J. F. Woods, the Battalion M.-G. sergeant, and the loss of C.S.M. J. Hoult, of Clay Cross. After being terribly wounded by a shell, Hoult pluckily walked a long way to the aid post, where, however, little could be

Digitized by Google

done for him. So the Battalion lost almost its last Green Ribbon (Volunteer Long Service Medal). The stay in the Kemmel sector extended to the middle of June and on the 12th the Battalion had to stand a terrific bombardment which followed the exploding of an enemy mine under trench " J. 3, right." They were fortunate, however, in having few casualties, the chief trouble falling to the 8th Battalion and the K.O.Y.L.I. It was here also that the 6th performed a feat in trench digging, the communication trench known as " Via Gellia," after the well-known Derbyshire road, being completed in two nights, and providing cover to troops moving across what had been the dangerous and bare " Sahara." General Goodman, a long time after he had left the Battalion, was commanding his brigade in this sector and recovered the name-board, which he presented to the Derbyshire County Council. A site has been given for its erection in the Via Gellia, Cromford, as a memorial of the Battalion.

From Kemmel, where Capt. C. B. Johnson succeeded Capt. Lomer as Adjutant, the 6th moved to Sanctuary Wood and Maple Copse, and had a trying time in the salient. During this period a party of 200 under Capt. E. H. Heathcote, and including a great many of the first reinforcements who had just arrived, were badly shelled in returning through Ypres, nine being killed and twenty-one wounded. An excellent example was shown by the old hands, including Sergt. G. W. Knowles, of Matlock, who was himself badly wounded and who later received his commission. About this time also a German aeroplane was shot down near Sanctuary Wood, and the badge of the dead pilot was secured by Col. Goodman, who had it forwarded to Germany through the Red Cross. He afterwards received a letter of thanks from the widow of the airman, who ultimately received the badge safely.

The 23rd of August found the Battalion on the Comines Canal, where they took over the Bluff and Spoil Bank. Again the final day of the tour proved disastrous, for, on the afternoon of the 30th September, the enemy put down a heavy bombardment on the Spoil Bank, and at 6.35 in the evening exploded a mine under the trench held by C Company. The first clear message was brought to Battalion Head-quarters by Lce.-Corpl. (afterwards 2nd Lieut.) F. W. A. Stubbs (Ashford-in-the-Water), and it was ultimately found that

Digitized by Google

COLONEL GOODMAN AND SOME OFFICERS
6TH BATTALION AT KEMMEL

THE 6TH BATTALION RESTING AFTER
A TOUR IN THE SALIENT

Facing page 28

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

2nd Lieut. L. G. Dickinson (Matlock), who had been commissioned from the ranks in March, and twelve other ranks were missing, believed killed. Lieut. Dickinson's body was afterwards dug out of the debris, he, with the rest of the missing, having been completely buried.

Then came a change of area, the Battalion going by train to Bethune, moving up on 1st October to help to convert the old German trenches which had been captured west of Loos. There they saw for the first time something of the wreckage of a modern battle. All along the Arras–Bethune main road between Philosophe and Loos were scattered the fragments of an A.S.C. convoy, which had been caught by the Boche shelling. It was the first taste of the Battle of Loos of 1915; but a more active share came to the 6th on 13th October, when the 46th Division attacked the German trenches on a line from Dump Trench to north of the famous Hohenzollern Redoubt. The brigade of Sherwood Foresters were in reserve for this action, and at noon the 6th Battalion came under the orders of the 137th Brigade, to which it was in immediate support. Immediately the attack was launched, Capt. V. O. Robinson (Chesterfield), with A Company, was sent into the front line trenches, and Capt. F. M. Dick (Staveley), with B Company, and Capt. C. J. Wheatcroft (Wirksworth), with D Company, were ordered to push on to the Dump in support of the South Staffords, who had attacked it. It was far from an inspiring sight, for the artillery preparation had had practically no effect upon the machine-guns with which the Dump was honeycombed, and the Stafford waves came under a murderous fire as soon as they emerged from the trenches. Major Blackwall, the senior officer present, realising that the attack had failed, kept the companies of the 6th Battalion in the trenches. The Battalion was eventually holding the front line trenches, whilst its bombers, under 2nd Lieut. W. A. Lytle, were detached for the purpose of assisting in the attack upon "Big Willie." All the afternoon the trenches were in a terrible state of congestion, the attempts to evacuate wounded and at the same time to rush up S.A.A. and bombs, leading to great confusion. Ultimately the Guards relieved the Battalion, part of which, under Capt. E. H. Heathcote, had had the task of garrisoning the west face of the Hohenzollern Redoubt, which had been captured. Altogether in the action

Digitized by Google

the Battalion lost 13 other ranks killed and 48 wounded, whilst 2 officers had been wounded (2nd Lieuts. J. L. Percival and G. F. Gardner). Capt. V. O. Robinson, whose company suffered most and who had done excellent work on this and other occasions, was awarded the Military Cross, the first decoration to be awarded to the unit. After this the Battalion was represented by a company at the King's inspection on the occasion when His Majesty was injured by his horse falling with him. Meantime, Major Blackwall had gone to command the 8th Battalion, taking with him as second-in-command Capt. E. H. Heathcote. They took the place of Col. Fowler, who had been killed in the Redoubt, and Major Beecher, who had been seriously wounded.

November saw the 6th in the line again just south of Neuve Chapelle, where 2nd Lieut. Lytle earned the M.C. for a bombing raid on the enemy line opposite Boar's Head; and Sergt. M. Limb (Matlock) and Corpl. R. Rust received the first D.C.M.'s to come to the unit. The water in the trenches here was the greatest enemy, and it was a welcome relief when the Battalion moved out, and after passing Christmas at Boeseghem, near the town of Aire, entrained for Marseilles, on the way to Egypt. The eastward trip, however, was cancelled, and after spending three weeks in the glorious sunshine of the South, the 6th found themselves back again in the mud and snow of Northern France, helping, at Puchvillers, to make a railway which was being laid in preparation for the coming Somme battle. The return to the trenches came in March, when the 6th relieved the 125th Regiment of the French Army in the Vimy Ridge trenches opposite to La Folie Farm. The German mines were the bugbear here. On 25th March, when the 5th Battalion were in the line, the enemy sent up a mine near the top of Birkin trench (so called after the C.O. of the 7th Battalion), and the 5th, who had had a good many casualties in attempting to seize the near lip of the crater, called upon our A and B Companies (Capts. E. B Johnson and J. Tolson), who were there as a working party, to assist them. The enemy bombers had been particularly deadly. At 11 p.m., Col. Goodman was ordered to proceed from our Battalion billets at Acq to organise an attack with these two companies. He was accompanied by Capt. F. M. Dick, who took over B Company from his second-in-command (Capt.

Digitized by Google

Tolson), while our bombers (2nd Lieut. Lytle) and scouts (2nd Lieut. K. H. Bond) were also sent up. After consultation, however, with Brig.-Gen. C. T. Shipley, it was found impossible to launch the attack before dawn, and finally the position was made secure by the digging of a new trench round the crater, making the front line a continuous trench once more. This was done without a single casualty by the men of A and B Companies, who had borne the hardships of cold, weariness, and hunger for forty-eight hours with the utmost cheeriness. This procedure of connecting up the line behind a crater became the standard method in this area.

In the middle of May the Battalion first became acquainted with the Fonquevillers trenches opposite Gommecourt, and all the work led up to the opening of the Somme offensive on 1st July. The attack was practised near Lucheux Forest, and as a preliminary to the action itself an advanced trench (measuring, with its C.T.'s, 1300 yards) was dug in two nights under shell and machine-gun fire and, what was almost worse, a downpour which filled the new trench and made it impossible to complete it in depth, although it was linked up. From this they emerged on the morning of the 24th of June, dead beat, covered with mud and soaked to the skin.

The 6th Battalion's task in the battle was to act as carrying party immediately in rear of the attacking waves ; A and B Companies to advance in two waves following the 5th and 7th Battalions, who made the assault ; C and D Companies to remain in the old front trench and retrenchments until ordered to advance. The smoke screen which was used only partly covered the waves of the attacking battalions, but they carried the first and, to some extent, the second and third German lines. The fourth wave of the attack, however, got into difficulties with the mud in our trenches, and neither this wave nor the 5th and 7th Battalions' own carrying parties could get away before the smoke lifted. The enemy put down a heavy barrage, and casualties were terribly severe both among the troops who attempted to leave the trenches and those who were coming up or waiting orders to go over. The 6th remained for some trying hours under orders to go over when the smoke again materialised, and finally this order was cancelled. The attack had failed, with very heavy losses to the 5th and 7th, who, although they succeeded in entering

Digitized by Google

the enemy trenches in fairly large numbers, came out of them with few either of officers or men. Although not really in the attack, the 6th had 170 casualties. The Adjutant (Capt. C. B. Johnson) was wounded by shell while close to Col. Goodman; Lieut. E. M. Jellicoe was killed by a bullet in the head whilst in one of the Russian saps; and Lieuts. R. D. Wheatcroft (Wirksworth) and H. Simpson (Chesterfield) afterwards died of wounds. It is a remarkable fact that all these three subalterns stood well over six feet in height. The Battalion also suffered the loss of Capt. F. B. Robinson ("Bubbles"), son of Major W. B. Robinson, of Chesterfield, an old officer of the 6th. "Bubbles" at the time was commanding the brigade machine-gun company; and Capt. Green, of the R.A.M.C., the medical officer of the 5th Battalion, was awarded, posthumously, the V.C. for his gallant work in attending to Capt. Robinson's wounds and attempting to get him to a place of safety. Capt. Green himself perished in carrying out his work among the wounded under a murderous fire in No Man's Land. Sergt. R. Wagg (Chesterfield) received the D.C.M. for his gallantry in attempting to save the life of his officer, Lieut. Wheatcroft, whom, after repeated attempts, he brought back to the trench. A popular warrant officer who was killed that day was C.S.M. W. Goddard (Stoney Middleton), of B Company.

From July to the end of October the 6th was in the Bellacourt sector of the area just north of Gommecourt, and life was fairly pleasant here, except on 20th July, when the Boche bombarded the 5th Battalion very heavily. They called for support from the 6th, and within one minute of receiving the order Capt. V. O. Robinson, with A Company, was on his way up. The company came under very heavy fire and lost Lieut. C. E. V. Cree, who was killed. In the period which followed there was a good deal of patrolling of the "Talus" just in front of the German trenches, and 2nd Lieut. F. R. Oliver, who had previously served in the ranks with the 5th Battalion, was wounded and missing on one of these patrols. He was never found, but Lieut. E. Kershaw, who was with the party, got back some valuable information. There were also some anxious times at "14 Sap," which the enemy raided, being repulsed, leaving two prisoners wounded.

Then came a rest down country, and in November, when

Digitized by Google

the Battalion was at Gapennes, Lt.-Col. Goodman left us to take over command of a brigade. He had brought the Battalion to France, commanded it with great success at the front for a year and nine months, and in the early part of the year had been honoured by the award of the C.M.G. The new C.O. was Major Hall, who received the D.S.O. at the New Year, but whose health caused him to relinquish the command soon after. Major A. L. Ashwell, D.S.O., of the 8th Battalion, was appointed; but he was seriously wounded on 8th March, when the Germans having started to retire from the area in front of Gommecourt, the 6th attacked them at Kite Copse and the Burg. The Battalion had first of all done great work in pushing the roadmaking over No Man's Land when the Boche retreat was first discovered, and then, working in conjunction with the 8th, continued to push back the determined enemy rearguard until they had cleared them out of Essarts village and Le Quesnoy Farm, where the last of the enemy machine-gunners took to their heels after firing at our advancing patrols. Major C. B. Johnson, who had returned from England after recovering from his Gommecourt wound, had been in command since Major Ashwell was wounded, and when our patrols had gone well on the way to Bucquoy the Battalion was relieved, and returned to billets at St. Amand. Lieut. J. Taylor (Buxton) had done some remarkable work in keeping up intercommunication all through this advance, and the Military Cross was awarded to 2nd Lieuts. E. Kershaw, L. N. Johnson, and F. W. A. Stubbs.

A pilgrimage southwards to Pont de Metz, near Amiens, and a train journey brought the 6th back to the Bethune area, where again they took part in chasing the enemy, who had been discovered in a retiring movement in front of Lens. They entered Liévin only a few hours after the Germans had left it, and twice they attacked Fosse 3, a strongly fortified mine and colliery village. On April 23rd, which was the bigger action, the attack was made by C and D Companies (Capts. E. B. Johnson and H. H. Jackson respectively commanding), with A Company close up. Within a minute of the start of the attack the enemy put down an extremely accurate barrage, and swept all the streets between the straight rows of houses of the "Coron" with machine-gun fire, the guns being 20 or 30 feet above the road level, in the slag heaps.

Digitized by Google

No. 10 Platoon, under Lieut. Cecil A. Brown (Buxton), were badly caught by this fire, and coming to a 5-foot wall, the officer promptly scaled it, but was killed in doing so. A number of his men succeeded in getting over also, but coming to a belt of uncut wire, which they could not pass, they took shelter in shell-holes until dark. D Company had better luck and reached their objective with the exception of half a platoon, which was held up by C Company's stoppage; they were under heavy fire all the time and had forty casualties, and one of the things which counted greatly against the success of the attack was the fact that a German, remaining behind his companions in one of the houses, set fire to it. The flames lit up the whole scene and revealed the movements of our men to the enemy. This German was killed in trying to leave the house, and Col. Johnson in his report remarked that this "must have been an extraordinarily brave man." D Company had ultimately to be withdrawn from the position they had taken. Capt. E. B. Johnson, 2nd Lieuts. V. H. Armitage, B. N. Parker, W. Archer, and K. H. Bond were all wounded, all seriously except the last-named. The losses in other ranks were 21 killed, 71 wounded, and 3 missing. After this, Capt. V. O. Robinson received a bar to his M.C., which decoration was also awarded to 2nd Lieut. Armitage. Sergt. F. Longson received the D.C.M., and there were eight Military Medallists, including Sergt. J. G. Ravey, who soon afterwards distinguished himself along with Sergt. Boam, of A Company, when on two successive nights, May 30th and 31st, the enemy raided the sector held by the company in Cité St. Pierre, where Lieut. F. W. A. Stubbs, M.C., was killed. A fine piece of work was done about this time in the Bois de Riamont, where the Battalion dug an assembly trench in preparation for an attack by the Lincoln and Leicestershire Brigade, for which the 6th received a special letter of thanks from the attackers. Unfortunately, however, Lieut. L. N. Johnson, a most popular officer, who had won his M.C. at Kite Copse, was killed. Then came a Military Cross for Capt. F. M. Dick, who was still in England wounded, and the D.C.M. for C.S.M. H. H. Holland (Chesterfield), of A Company.

There was a great furbishing of arms, equipment, and transport for an inspection by General Sir William Robertson, Chief

Digitized by Google

of the Imperial General Staff, which took place in the Colliery Yard (with the French pit-brow lasses as spectators) at Fosse 10. Then on the 1st of July (fatal date !) the 6th were again in the attack, one company taking part in a Divisional action on the fringe of Cité St. Pierre. Again the Battalion's objective was taken, but not held. 2nd Lieut. R. C. F. Dolley who had only recently arrived, was missing and never again heard of; Lieut. J. Taylor (Signals) and 2nd Lieut. T. A. D. Mabbott were wounded; and of other ranks 8 were killed, 29 wounded, 4 wounded and missing, and 3 missing.

A month's rest at the village of Frevillers included, among other recreations, a Divisional Rifle Meeting, at which General Thwaites, the Divisional Commander, coined his famous phrase: " You can't kill a Boche with a bomb at 200 yards." Then back to the St. Elie sector, where 2nd Lieut. R. Evans died of wounds, and Capt. H. H. Jackson was wounded in a raid and got the M.C.

September brought the Battalion into the Hill 70 sector, and with the entry to these trenches we suffered a loss which was felt keenly by every officer and man who wore the Green Diamond. Lt.-Col. C. B. Johnson, who had taken command at Kite Copse at the age of twenty-six, was killed by a shell whilst going up the trenches, on our entry, just in front of Loos. He died instantly, and was buried at the little cemetery at Sailly-Labourse. The esteem in which he was universally held was reflected in the words of Major-Gen. Thwaites, who, at Chesterfield in the end of 1919, spoke of " that dear fellow Johnson."

The new C.O. was Major B. W. Vann, M.C., an 8th Battalion officer, who also wore the French Croix de Guerre. Patrolling was a feature of the whole time spent in Hill 70. Twenty-five patrols were carried out; our guns repeatedly smashed the Boche wire to pieces, and No Man's Land became forbidden territory to the enemy. The saddest feature of the stay was the death of Capt. J. Tolson, who was fatally wounded whilst examining his wire. On the night of November 4th a highly successful raid was led by Capt. G. K. K. Maughan. Great destruction was done in the enemy line, and Lieut. C. G. Radford, although wounded early, did great work, which he finished by bringing back to our line the body of Sergt. Stevenson, who had been killed. Three prisoners belonging

Digitized by Google

to the 98th Regt. of Pioneers were taken; but among our losses was Sergt. M. Salt, a clever Lewis gunner, one of a party who in the darkness got into our own barrage among the houses in the enemy line. Lieut. Radford received the M.C., and Sergt. Helliwell, who rounded up the prisoners with his "shillelagh," was among the Military Medallists.

Another raid followed the discovery on January 2nd that the Boche had cut out about 200 yards of his wire. It was really a fighting patrol which discovered the fact that the enemy was assembling to raid, and immediate preparation to receive him resulted in the barrage coming down just nine seconds after it was called for. The attack (there were three parties of sixty each) simply melted away. The Army Commander sent his congratulations, and specially commended the despatch of the fighting patrol.

A rest at Laires brought the 6th into the line again in the Cambrin sector, which we exchanged with the 55th Division, and hurried away by bus to Bully Grenay and into the familiar trenches of Cité St. Pierre, at the time when the Germans started their attack on the Portuguese north of the La Bassée Canal. This was the commencement of the big advance which the enemy made in the north; but the 46th Division was taken out of the line and held in G.H.Q. reserve, ultimately relieving the 55th Division, who had, at Givenchy, stopped the German rush for Bethune. Our new sector was on the right of the new enemy salient, covering Bethune and the villages of Gorre, Loisne, Le Hamel, and Essars. There were no prepared trenches. Beyond the daily shelling and patrols, one or two successful and unsuccessful raids, and a certain amount of fighting round Route A Keep, on the right of the line, nothing important happened until August 30th, when, in consequence of the brilliant attack of August 8th south of the Somme river, the enemy started to evacuate the Festubert–Merville–Kemmel salient. The Battalion advanced, keeping touch with the enemy.

On the night of August 30th the outpost line ran north and south near Richebourg St. Vaast. On August 31st the Battalion, acting as advance guard, attacked and held Epinette Post and the Rue des Chavattes, finding themselves well in advance of the flank units. Next day B Company crossed the Loisne river and gallantly attacked

Digitized by Google

and captured Scott and Hunter's posts, which were stoutly defended.

On September 3rd the 19th Division attacked on the left in order to come up to the Battalion line. Taking advantage of this attack, the Battalion advanced under a barrage and captured the line of posts west of the Rue de Bois. The 6th not only carried their objective on this occasion, but Capt. Rowland and C Company, finding Lansdowne post on his left still held by the enemy, captured this post at the point of the bayonet, garrison and guns complete.

After four days and nights of continuous fighting the Battalion was relieved. The casualties in these actions amounted to 11 officers and 242 men.

On September 11th the Division moved south by train and joined the 4th Army, which was engaged in a series of great battles destined to prove decisive in the war.

On September 24th the 6th took part in an attack on Pontruet, an outpost village of the Hindenburg Line. A very small objective was given the Battalion—the small hamlet of St. Helène. This was carried and held.

The main attack on Pontruet, although carried out with the greatest gallantry, failed in the end to hold the whole of the village, and the troops, including portions of the 6th Battalion who had been sent up in support, were ordered to fall back in the night.

On September 29th the 46th Division forced the St. Quentin Canal, captured Bellenglise, Lehaucourt, Magny la Fosse, and broke through the Hindenburg Line. In this action the 6th Battalion alone captured over four hundred prisoners and three batteries of guns.

At Bellenglise the Battalion gained twenty-one decorations, Col. Vann winning the Victoria Cross. It is for history to appraise the true importance of this battle.

The series of battles which followed were of a more open nature. On October 3rd the villages of Ramicourt and the Fonsomne Line were captured in a hard-fought action. The Battalion gained all its objectives and some thousands of prisoners were taken, including a complete enemy sick parade. The casualties in the Battalion were heavy.

After the capture of the towns of Fresnoy and Bohain the advance was temporarily checked on the line of the Selle

Digitized by Google

River. On October 17th the Sherwood Forester Brigade attacked and captured Regnicourt, the 6th Battalion holding an outpost line in the evening some miles in front of that village. This was part of a large attack in which the 3rd and 4th Armies were engaged.

On November 4th the last positions of the Herman-Stellung covering the Oise–Sambre Canal were captured and the enemy in full retreat; the 6th Battalion, passing through units of the 1st Division, took up the pursuit. The resistance was very feeble, and the roads full of abandoned enemy guns and transport.

On November 5th the Battalion acted as advance guard and successfully disposed of several isolated rearguard parties and machine-guns. The outpost line was in front of Prisches. The advance was continued on the subsequent days up to November 11th, 1918, on which date the Sherwood Forester Brigade was in support to the outpost line in front of Avesnes.

After the Armistice the Colours were brought from Chesterfield Parish Church to Battalion Headquarters, then at Landrécies, and demobilisation of the men gradually took place until the cadre returned to Chesterfield in June, 1919, under Acting Lt.-Col. V. O. Robinson. The casualties which the Battalion had sustained in the war had been: killed, 426; wounded, 1358.

The decorations won included: 1 V.C.; 1 C.M.G.; 4 D.S.O.'s; 30 M.C.'s; 24 D.C.M.'s; 87 M.M.'s; 5 M.S.M.'s; 27 Mentions in Despatches; and 7 foreign decorations.

Digitized by Google

IX

7TH BATTALION NOTES

WHEN the war clouds burst over Europe with such dramatic suddenness the Robin Hoods were encamped, with the rest of the units forming the North Midland Territorial Brigade, on the grassy slopes of Hunmanby, on the Yorkshire coast, but in an incredibly short space of time they were hurried home and mobilised for active service. A long period of strenuous training in modern methods of warfare ensued in various parts of this country before the 1/7th Battalion proceeded to France, February, 1915, the transport of one contingent being delayed to escape threatened danger from submarines. For a short time after arrival on the Western Front the men were billeted in the little village of Ryvelt, which had previously been in the occupation of the German cavalry, and their preliminary instruction in trench warfare was undertaken in the "Plug Street" area, where they were cordially welcomed by General Sir H. Smith-Dorrien, the honorary Colonel of the Sherwood Foresters, and then commanding the 2nd Army. It was here, too, that the Robin Hoods received their baptism of rifle and artillery fire. The Battalion afterwards marched some fifteen miles to Bac St. Maur, and remained in support of the British cavalry at the battle of Neuve Chapelle. Had that attack proved the success anticipated, it was arranged that the Robin Hoods, with the Sherwood Foresters Brigade, should advance with the cavalry; but instead they subsequently returned to the Division and were trained at Bleu in the throwing of hand grenades, which in those early days were very primitive in character, being manufactured out of old jam tins.

Valuable training followed in the Forest de Nieppe. In April, 1915, the Battalion took over the trench line on the

Digitized by Google

Messines Ridge immediately below Wytschaete and held it for about two months. The enemy occupied a very strong position on the crest of the hill, and the intervening ground, which was water-logged, was exposed to a raking fire. It was impossible to dig communication trenches owing to the water, and when relieving and being relieved the Robin Hoods were compelled to cross the open ground and suffered many casualties in the process. Early in May the Germans made an attempt to rush one of the trenches, but were repulsed with heavy losses by a company of Robin Hoods, supported by machine-guns. On another occasion, when the Battalion was moving up to the relief of the 8th Battalion S.F., it was reported that the Germans had broken through in thousands; but it transpired that the enemy had only mined one of the trenches, and they were rapidly overwhelmed as the result of a successful attack by the two Notts Territorial Battalions. In the course of this trench warfare a considerable number of casualties were sustained, and it was after this experience that the Robin Hoods were inspected by General Sir Charles Ferguson, who congratulated the members of the Battalion upon the efficient manner in which they had transformed an exceedingly bad trench line into one of the best on the whole British front. In recognition of the constructive skill displayed, he added, he had decided to send some of the battalions of the New Armies to them for instruction in trench warfare—a high compliment indeed, and one which was keenly appreciated.

After the second great battle of Ypres in 1915, in which the Canadians suffered so severely, the Robin Hoods were moved up with the 46th Division to some trenches in the apex of the salient at Sanctuary Wood, on three sides of which the Germans concentrated intense rifle and artillery fire. It was during the operations in the neighbourhood of Maple Copse, which was heavily shelled, that the Battalion lost its Commanding Officer (Col. S. W. Birkin, C.M.G.), who was wounded. He had proved a most popular leader, and the high state of efficiency and discipline which then characterised the Robin Hoods was due in the main to his excellent work as Commanding Officer.

He was succeeded in that capacity by Col. A. W. Brewill, who also endeared himself to all ranks and was held in the

Digitized by Google

highest esteem, and almost immediately the Battalion was engaged in a desperate battle near the village of Hooge, July 30th, 1915. It was a critical position, and as there was a shortage of spades and picks the men were obliged to scratch cover for themselves with their entrenching tools. Thirty of the Battalion's bombers rendered signal service on that occasion, holding on to a vital point during the night and extricating a number of men who had been buried by sandbags when the Germans blew up the trench. The following morning the Germans continued their attack, but met with an enfilading fire from a trench built in the night by the Robin Hoods and were thrown back in disorder. The Battalion covered itself with glory during the following days in those fierce battles around Hooge, and the Commander-in-Chief (Sir John French), who rode over to see the Battalion when they had withdrawn to their rest billets, spoke in terms of the warmest praise of the Robin Hoods, and said that " they had saved the situation at a most critical period." The casualties numbered about 150, but in proportion to the losses inflicted upon the enemy and the results achieved they were comparatively small.

A spell in the trenches near the Ypres–Comines road and Canal, known as " the Bluff," followed, the British and German trenches at one point being actually only about ten yards apart. The Battalion Head-quarters suffered heavily from shell-fire. At the end of September, 1915, the Robin Hoods occupied a portion of the German trenches captured the previous day at the battle of Loos, and had many casualties.

Then came the historic battle for the Hohenzollern Redoubt, which the 46th Division received instructions to attack on October 13th, 1915, after the failure of two previous attacks which had resulted in enormous losses to the British forces, owing to the withering machine-gun fire which the enemy focussed on No Man's Land. The position of these machine-guns having been ascertained, the British artillery, on the morning of October 13th, concentrated on them and on the Redoubt: this artillery bombardment which preceded the attack was a spectacle never to be forgotten. Then, behind a smoke cloud, including a certain amount of gas, the infantry advanced; but the moment the cloud disappeared they came

Digitized by Google

under the most terrific machine-gun fire imaginable, and men were mown down like corn. The Lincolns and Leicesters, despite terrible losses, passed to the eastern side of the Redoubt, where they were held up, and in crossing No Man's Land to their support the Robin Hoods, too, suffered severely, and on reaching the German trenches in the Redoubt found them almost filled with dead and wounded. The warfare then resolved itself into a battle of hand grenades, and it was difficult to keep the men supplied with ammunition and bombs. Col. Brewill, who was now the senior officer left in the area, took over the command, organised the defence of the portion of the Redoubt captured, and made all arrangements for consolidating the position won. During the evening supplies were sent up over a stretch of open ground at the cost of many casualties, and when darkness set in the C.O. had a new communication trench dug between the English trench line and the Redoubt, by which means supplies of bombs, food, water, etc., were conveyed to the Redoubt during the following day. There is no doubt that it was very largely due to this trench being dug that the Battalion was able to hold on to the position won. It was during that memorable night that the late Major Warren won the Military Cross by holding on to the Redoubt with a handful of men, and that Captain Vickers gained the Victoria Cross by his bravery in bombing the enemy single-handed. During the fight the C.O. and six men were in a trench when a shell burst over them, and the Commanding Officer was the only one to escape death.

The Robin Hoods held on to the Redoubt for two days and nights until relieved by the Irish Guards, losing over 300 officers and men, whilst those who survived were naturally in a very exhausted condition. For the brilliant work accomplished on that occasion the Battalion were highly complimented by Sir Richard Haking, the Corps Commander.

Later in October, 1915, reinforcements were received, which again brought the Battalion to strength, and early in November the Battalion was inspected by His Majesty the King near Bethune. Subsequently they occupied a flooded line of trenches at Richebourg l'Avoué, and had a most trying experience until relieved in December. The Division was then detailed to go to Egypt, and the Robin Hoods proceeded to

Digitized by Google

Marseilles, from which place they were to embark. The orders for Egypt were subsequently cancelled, and the Battalion returned to the Western Front, taking over trenches from the French troops on the Vimy Ridge, which they held during February, March, and April, 1916. These trenches were mined and in a very exposed and dangerous position. Several of the mines were exploded during the occupation of the trench line, and the situation was extremely anxious and critical, but the Robin Hoods never lost a yard of this important position.

In May, 1916, the Division was relieved on the Vimy Ridge and moved down to the Somme, the Sherwood Foresters Brigade occupying a section of the line west of Gommecourt. Col. Brewill was invalided home the following month, and Lt.-Col. L. A. Hind, M.C., took over command. On July 1st, 1916, the Robin Hoods were engaged in the great Somme drama, attacking Gommecourt—a part of the line held in tremendous strength by the Germans, who had concentrated some of their best troops and artillery in the sector. When the memorable battle opened with the first streak of dawn the Robin Hoods were in the first wave, and the Battalion advanced, in the words of one of their survivors, "just as if they were having a field day, though the air was thick with lead," The men were facing certain death, but fought magnificently, and, as a correspondent wrote at the time, "by their great bravery and heroic attack on an almost impossible position they enabled the great advance to be made on the rest of the front." A mere handful of men emerged, their ranks shattered, but their honour intact. It was a great and at the same time tragic day for Nottingham's Territorials, as out of 28 officers who went into action 13 were killed, including Col. Hind and the Adjutant (Capt. Gotch), and the casualties amongst the rank and file exceeded 400.

On July 3rd, 1916, Lt.-Col. W. S. N. Toller, D.S.O., took over the command, and the Battalion for some months held a line of trenches at Blairville, south of Arras, carrying out a brilliant raid. Subsequently they had experience of trench warfare opposite Gommecourt, and in March, 1917, chased the retiring Germans as far as Bucquoy, preparing outposts for the Staffords, who delivered a vigorous attack in that neighbourhood. Some fierce fighting followed in front of Lens, and during the remainder of the year the Robin Hoods

Digitized by Google

were employed in trench warfare near the Hohenzollern Redoubt, at Loos, and in the Vermeilles sector, being reinforced by two big drafts from the second line of the Sherwood Rangers. Numerous small raids were carried out, and the Battalion received several congratulatory messages from the Divisional officers.

The 2/7th Robin Hoods, who were commanded for nearly a year by Lt.-Col. M. C. Martyn, D.S.O., of Mansfield, went to France in February, 1917, with the 59th Division, after helping to quell the Irish Rebellion, and were first in action at the beginning of March, when they pursued the retreating Germans from the Somme and formed part of the leading troops which chased the enemy on to the Hindenburg Line. They were in action in the vicinity of Le Verguier, which proved a regular hornet's nest, and at Hargincourt Quarries, and had an important share in the capture of these positions. After a rest at Berne they held the line at Havrincourt Wood and then moved to the line opposite Cambrai, participating subsequently in the battle of Ypres, attacking on September 26th with brilliant results, securing all their objectives in a very difficult operation, though suffering between 300 and 350 casualties. Relieved by New Zealand troops, the Battalion was sent down to hold the line in front of Lens, and in November was engaged in the Cambrai battle, being responsible for the Divisional rearguard from Bourlon Wood to the main line advance at Flesquieres. While thus engaged the Battalion accomplished magnificent work, for which they received special praise from Head-quarters, and when subsequently inspected by the Divisional Commander they were highly commended for being the smartest Battalion in the Division.

The two Battalions of the Robin Hoods, now considerably reduced in number, were amalgamated early in 1918, and for a fortnight held the old Hindenburg Line north of Bullecourt. Later they entered the line between Bullecourt and Queant, and were there when the German hordes made what proved their last desperate and frantic efforts to overwhelm the Allies and reach Paris. Those were dark days for the British Army, and March 21st was a day of tragedy for the Robin Hoods, who were caught by the advancing enemy and practically wiped out. There seems to be a certain amount of

Digitized by Google

confusion as to what actually occurred on that fateful morning, but it was established that, of about 630 men who were in the lines, with instructions to hold it at all cost, only about 14 managed to get out, the remainder being either killed, wounded, or taken prisoners. The Robin Hoods were holding the right front system of trenches occupied by the brigade and were in a very awkward salient, three companies being in advance and one in support. The enemy's artillery fire commenced about five o'clock accompanied by smoke shells, and all communications were cut in a short time. A low-lying fog prevailed, and when this and the barrage temporarily lifted, the Germans had surrounded the defenders almost before it was realised the attack had started. Advancing in thousands, the enemy broke through on the right and left flanks of the brigade and swept up to the Battalion Head-quarters, which were situated in a sunken road. The Battalion fought with splendid heroism against terrible odds, and themselves exacted a heavy toll before they were finally overwhelmed after several hours' strenuous fighting, but not before they had used up all their ammunition.

Subsequently the surviving Robin Hoods were merged with other units who had similarly suffered into one Battalion. For three years the Battalion of which Nottingham is so justly proud faced the perils and hardships of a bloody war of unparalleled magnitude with a courage and endurance which were superb, always upholding the best traditions of the British Army and adding further lustre to the brilliant history of the Sherwood Foresters, to which famous Regiment it belongs.

Digitized by Google

X

8TH BATTALION NOTES

FEW of those who went to camp at Hunmanby at the end of July, 1914, had ever given a moment's serious thought to the possibility of the Territorials ever seeing real fighting; few, again, expected the war to last "until we could get out"; fewer still of those who finally went out in February, 1915, had any real hope of ever seeing England again.

The story of the 8th Battalion during the first few months of the war is the story of every other unit of the Territorial Force. The Battalion was rapidly mobilised at Newark, with old pattern equipment, rifles, and machine-guns, and impressed and improvised transport. Lt.-Col. C. J. Huskinson was in command, Major G. H. Fowler second-in-command, and Capt. E. N. T. Collin Adjutant. On August 10th we moved off via Radcliffe to Derby—two strenuous days' marching for raw troops—where we joined the rest of the Notts and Derby Brigade. On August 15th we moved by train to Luton, where the North Midland Division was concentrated, leaving a few days later for Harpenden. Here we were destined to spend three very strenuous but very satisfactory months of really serious training in all branches, particularly in musketry—the latter carried out under great difficulties and, in most cases, with every pattern of rifle and ammunition but the one we were destined to use on service.

Here we were inspected successively by Sir Ian Hamilton, Lord Kitchener, and Lord Roberts. In November we made a hurried move into Essex, our first day's march of twenty-six miles being a real test and finding out many weak spots.

At Bocking, near Braintree, where we remained until we left England for good, we were employed in finishing our training, and combined instruction with utility by digging portions of the defensive lines of London.

Digitized by Google

By the end of January we were fairly well trained and equipped, and were reorganised on the 4-company basis.

Shortly after this Col. Huskinson left to take over command of the Base details, and was succeeded by Col. Fowler, with Major A. C. Clarke as second-in-command.

On February 19th the whole Division was inspected by His Majesty the King, and on the 25th we began our move to France, the first complete Territorial Division to be sent on Active Service. After various adventures, the Battalion was finally concentrated in Oudezeele, near Cassel.

During the fighting in the early part of March in front of Neuve Chapelle the 139th Brigade was attached to the 2nd Cavalry Division (Gen. Gough) in reserve, in case of a break-through, which, of course, did not come off.

At the end of March we were attached to the 10th Infantry Brigade for a short but valuable period of instruction in trench warfare at Ploegsteert; and finally, on April 3rd, we took over from the 1st Devons (28th Division) a portion of the trench line at Kemmel, which in 1917 was the scene of some of the bloodiest fighting of the war. Our stay of nearly three months in this area was comparatively uneventful, though, owing to bad trenches, inexperience, and a good deal of bad luck, we suffered a large number of casualties. We had two especially bad days—the first on April 24th, a heavy trench-mortar bombardment, involving B, C, and D Companies, one of the many occasions on which Vann distinguished himself; the second on June 15th, when the enemy exploded mines and attempted a raid. We again suffered heavy casualties, losing, amongst others, two very valuable officers in Dobson and Hollins.

Shortly after this—June 20th—we left the Kemmel sector for the Ypres salient, leaving behind us, we believe, a good reputation both for fighting and working and with a great deal of valuable experience.

On June 23rd we relieved the 5th Yorks in trenches in front of Sanctuary Wood—our first experience of the Salient. Here we spent three months—unpleasant as only three months in the Salient could be. The most memorable portion of this was a tour of nineteen successive days in the trenches, during which the Battalion helped to sustain and beat off the murderous liquid fire attack at Hooge on the night 29/30th July.

Digitized by Google

Owing to the partial success of the attack the Battalion was stranded, with its left flank entirely in the air, in circumstances of the greatest possible difficulty and danger. In spite of this, the trenches were held intact—an achievement which had the most important effect on the general situation, and for which the Battalion subsequently received the special thanks of the Higher Command.

At the end of September the Division left the Salient to take part in the final stages of the battle of Loos. This was our first experience of attack on a large scale, the object of the operations, which were carried out on October 13th by the 12th and 46th Divisions, being to establish the left flank of the 1st Army by the capture of the Hohenzollern Redoubt, Fosse 8, and the quarries, all important tactical features. On this occasion gas was used by us for the first time, and an amount of artillery hitherto unheard of. The attack, which was made by the 137th Brigade on the right, the 138th on the left, and the 139th in support, was, for all practical purposes, a failure. Much of the blame must be put down to inadequate preparation and wrong information; a great deal also to the bad luck which for so long dogged the steps of the Division. In spite of the greatest gallantry, only a small portion of the Redoubt was captured. The 8th Battalion, who were flung in on the early morning of the 14th against an unreconnoitred objective, with the idea of clearing up a part of the situation, gained a little ground at the cost of a totally disproportionate number of casualties. Here we lost Col. Fowler and Major Becher (who afterwards died of wounds), the two Handfords, Hemingway, Strachan, and Fisher. To those who knew them any word of praise is superfluous. We lost, too, many valuable N.C.O.'s and men, and the Battalion was reduced practically to a skeleton.

Major J. E. Blackwall came from the 6th Battalion to take over the Command. After a period of rest and reorganisation the Battalion again went into the line, relieving the Indians at Richebourg in what were probably the worst and wettest trenches we ever occupied.

December was spent near the La Bassée Canal in training and equipping for the anticipated move to Egypt, which was actually begun, but was subsequently cancelled after the Battalion had spent a happy fortnight at Marseilles.

Digitized by Google

The following two months were spent behind the lines, mainly in the region of Candas, working on the railway lines and other communications for the projected July offensive.

Early in March, 1916, the Battalion relieved the French troops on the Vimy Ridge, a region of mine craters and desolation. The main feature of this period was, of course, the mining and crater fighting, than which there is no more unpleasant form of warfare. In this we fully held our own with the Germans and in a really eventful last tour did some very good work, being finally relieved by the 25th Division on April 20th.

The next two months were spent in training and preparing for the opening attack of the Somme battle, which eventually took place on July 1st. The objective of the Division was the village of Gommecourt, the most westerly portion of the German front.

The attack training, strenuous though it was and carried out in every detail over an exact duplicate of the German system, was as nothing compared with the colossal amount of work which had to be done in preparing our own trenches and supply system for the attack. It is no exaggeration to say that, owing to the amount of work and the impossible weather conditions in which it had to be carried out, every officer and man in the Division was worn out before the attack started. Add to this that the enemy knew the day and hour of the attack, and that his trenches and wire were, for the most part, undamaged by the bombardment, and it will hardly be a matter for wonder that the assault, most gallantly made on our brigade front by the 5th and 7th Battalions, was doomed to failure.

The 8th Battalion being in brigade reserve did not come into action in the attack proper, but had a very bad time and suffered many casualties in the preliminary stages and during the cleaning up afterwards.

Following this strenuous time we spent three and a half fairly peaceful and happy months in the quiet section in front of the Bellacourt, a few miles south of Arras. Much time was spent in perfecting the training of officers and men, in refitting, and organising games, concert parties, etc. Our periods in the line were comparatively uneventful, with the exception of a very successful raid by A Company under Vann.

Digitized by Google

October 29th, 1916, to March 17th, 1917.—From here we moved to Maison Ponthieu, where we spent three weeks training with a view to taking part in the final stages of the Somme offensive. However, when we finally left, it was to go back to the trenches in the Foncquevillers sector.

This period, owing to the appalling state of the trenches, and, later, to the intense cold, was anything but comfortable. About this time much attention was given to the reorganisation and training of platoons in accordance with the tactical characteristics of the infantry weapons—rifle and bayonet, Lewis gun, and bomb—to put them in their right order of merit.

On February 27th news came that the enemy were evacuating Gommecourt, and from March 3rd until March 17th we were kept busy following him up through the maze of trenches and strong points in rear. Nearly all the fighting was done on a small scale, but the Boche put up a stout fight, and a great deal of really good work was done by all ranks. Owing to the shortening of the line, the end of March saw the Battalion finally withdrawn from the pursuit of the retreating enemy and on its way north to join the 11th Corps of the 1st Army in the Lens area. Lievin had just been evacuated by the Germans, who, as their documents show, would, with a moderate amount of pressure applied a little earlier, have given up Lens also. Not being pressed in all directions, they remained, and the capture of Lens proved eventually to be a most slow and costly task.

On April 19th the Battalion relieved the 7th Northants in front of Riaumont, which with Hill 65 was looked upon as the key to Lens. The first task was to clear Riaumont, which was done at night by A Company, under Capt. A. Hacking, without casualties. The next was less successful. A very gallant but quite unprepared attack on Hill 65 by C Company, in conjunction with the 6th Battalion, who were attacking Fosse 3, ended badly. The position was very strongly held, and we lost two invaluable officers—Duff and Hopkinson—and 70 other ranks missing or killed, and 34 wounded. In fact, C Company practically ceased to exist. This operation by so small a force would seem to have been based on faulty intelligence, and was, as stated, practically unprepared. Hill 65 subsequently took two months' artillery preparation

Digitized by Google

and two brigades for its final capture. Tactics of the attack had by this time been considerably modified in accordance with the correct principles of more open warfare—formations in depth, creeping barrages, and wider frontages. The rest of this period was one constant succession of attempts, on a larger scale, to capture Lens. Substantial progress was made by the 137th and 138th Brigades, and finally, on July 1st—an unlucky day in the history of the Battalion and Brigade—an attack was made by the whole Division. The Brigade, with which was the 2nd Battalion, captured a part of its objective, but having spent its strength in the attack was too weak to hold its gains. This attack was the culminating point of three weeks of the severest fighting in which all units suffered heavily.

After a period of rest, the Battalion was once more in quieter trenches near Cité St. Elie and Loos, where they were to spend six months of trench warfare, with nothing but occasional raids to relieve the monotony. The Brigade was now under the command of Brig.-Gen. G. G. S. Carey, C.B., who had succeeded Gen. Shipley. The first part of the time was spent near the Hohenzollern Redoubt, so changed by the incessant mining as to be almost unrecognisable by those who knew it in October, 1915. A raid by D (Simonet) and B (Tomlinson) Companies met with no success, owing to heavy machine-gun fire.

Whilst in rest billets the Battalion made great friends with the French miners, with whom, as in every other quarter, they were on the best of terms.

After a rest in billets near Bethune the Battalion went back into the trenches at Cambrin. The noteworthy incident of this period was a raid by C Company and half A Company, under Martelli, which failed owing to the enemy having become aware of the preparations for it.

A further period in the St. Elie sector brought them up to the middle of January, 1918. During this time an attempted enemy raid was most successfully defeated. In January the Battalion was greatly strengthened by drafts from the 2/8th and 1/7th, as the result of the reduction of brigades from four to three battalions. After a period of training in the Bomy area (1st Army), which was cut short in preparation for the expected German offensive, we were once more moved to the

Digitized by Google

Bethune sector. Here Col. Blackwall left, after commanding the Battalion with great distinction from October, 1916, without a break. He was succeeded by Lt.-Col. R. W. Currin D.S.O. The great German attack of March 21st did not touch us, except for a raid on the morning of the 22nd; but for some time the air was full of rumours of attacks, and great precautions were taken. On March 25th we went back again to the Lens area, and thence, on April 12th, to Army Reserve, where desperate precautions were being made for the defence at all costs. Taking all in all, this was probably the darkest period of the war, and we had our backs to the wall in real earnest. On April 24th the Battalion relieved the 2nd Royal Scots (3rd Division) in the Gorre and Essars sector, near Bethune. Of trenches, properly so called, there were none. Each side occupied an outpost line of shell-holes, with practically no protection and no communications. The line was therefore under observation at all times, and movement was possible only at night. During this period there was constant gas shelling. The time out of the line was spent in working on the defences of Bethune. About the middle of August, under constant pressure in the south, the enemy began to evacuate his front line. The next few days were spent in following up the retreat near Neuve Chappelle, which involved some sharp fighting, including a successful operation on September 4th in conjunction with the 5th Leicesters.

Early in September, after the Battalion had been nearly six months in this area, Col. Dempster, D.S.O., 2nd Manchester Regiment, took over the command of the Battalion, and Major-Gen. Boyd of the 46th Division. After a period of training in open warfare, advanced guards, etc., the Division was transferred to the IX Corps (4th Army), and went into the line near St. Quentin and about two miles west of Bellenglise. A minor operation by the Division on September 25th, in conjunction with the 1st Division, against Pontrue was unsuccessful.

This brings us to the most interesting period in the history of the Battalion and the Division. The moment had come when the Hindenburg Line must be broken. As part of a larger operation, the Division was ordered to cross the St. Quentin Canal between Bellenglise and Riqueval Bridge, holding the crossings, and take the trench system to the east

Digitized by Google

of it. The crossing of the canal was to be achieved by the 137th Brigade, the 138th and the 139th following up to exploit their success. The 32nd Division was held in readiness to follow them up. On the right was the 1st Division, and on our left the 30th American Division (attached to the Australian Corps). How the operation was carried out is now a matter of history, and can only be briefly summarised here. On the morning of September 29th, contrary to all expectations, both of the enemy and of our own Higher Command, the 137th achieved the impossible, and took and crossed the canal. According to plan, the other brigades went through them under cover of a heavy and most effective creeping barrage. Little opposition was met with until we had crossed the canal and started moving half right towards Bellenglise. Here we came up against a good deal of fire, and " pill-boxes " and machine-gun posts had to be rushed, A Company in particular having much work to do. Eventually Bellenglise was cleared, only ten minutes after the scheduled hour, and the final objective was reached almost up to time. Some desultory machine-gun fire was silenced, and the gains were finally made good. In all, the Battalion took something like 300 prisoners, 40 machine-guns, and 10 trench mortars. Our own experience was the experience of the whole Division, for which it had been a wonderful day, more than compensating for all our former hardships and bad luck. The other Division had not been so completely successful, but had still made great progress, and the success of the whole operation was assured. Things went well for us, it is true, but the achievement, which was as wonderful and unexpected as it was far-reaching in its effects, was due solely to the splendid spirit of all ranks and their invincible determination to " get there " at all costs. Our casualties were 1 officer killed and 2 wounded, and 11 other ranks killed and 80 wounded.

On September 30th St. Quentin fell. There was now only a fragment of the Hindenburg Line left, between Beaurevoir and Fon Somme, and this was strongly held.

On October 3rd an attack was undertaken in conjunction with the 2nd Australian Division and assisted by nine tanks. The attack, which was very hurriedly prepared at less than twelve hours' notice, was carried out at dawn under a creeping barrage. Opposed to the 46th Division were four German

Digitized by Google

divisions with instructions to hold out to the last. The objective of the Brigade was Ramicourt and Montbrehain. Although the wire was hardly cut and the defences were practically intact, A, B, and D Companies captured Wiancourt (which should have been taken by the Australians and which was holding up the advance) at the point of the bayonet, and much gallant work was done in rushing machine-gun nests. The severity of the fighting is shown by the fact that 200 dead Germans were found in the trenches on the Brigade front alone. Ramicourt was captured, with 400 prisoners, by remnants of A, C, and D Companies, assisted by a company of the 6th Battalion (it was here that Vann, who was now commanding the 6th Battalion, was killed). An enemy strong point at Montbrehain, part of which had been left intact by the troops on the flank, was captured with 12 machine-guns and about 70 men, by A and C Companies, but was subsequently reoccupied by the enemy, mainly owing to a shortage of ammunition in the Brigade. During the day the Brigade had taken 36 officers and 1500 other ranks prisoners, and a large number of machine-guns. Probably on this day the Battalion distinguished itself as greatly as ever during its history. From the start all the conditions were unfavourable, and luck was not always with them. It was only by sheer pluck and tenacity, combined with daring and initiative, that they overcame all obstacles and put up a performance of which they may always be proud.

After two days spent in the trenches near Sequehart, on the extreme right of the British line, a ghastly place which had already changed hands three times, we began to move eastward through the country which the enemy was so rapidly evacuating. On October 17th a general attack on the enemy rearguard was found necessary to clear him from the Bois-de-Riquerval and the Andigny Ridge. This was carried out by the 138th and 139th Brigades, the 8th Battalion being entrusted with the attack on our brigade front. Owing to the fog and smoke, direction was soon lost, and at first things did not go well; but by dint of reorganising and some very gallant fighting, in which dash and initiative was shown, things were pulled round, and eventually the enemy were pushed out and the Battalion had a total of 220 prisoners and nearly 100 machine-guns to show. The casualties had been

Digitized by Google

heavy: 3 officers killed, 3 wounded, and nearly 100 other ranks killed and wounded.

Regnicourt had been a hard day—one of the hardest in the history of the Battalion—and the success gained under great difficulties was not the least of our achievements. From now until November 11th was spent in following up the retreating enemy without any serious opposition—in fact, Regnicourt was our last day's fighting in the war.

Towards the end of November news came that the Division was not to form part of the Army of Occupation. Christmas was spent at Landrécies, and soon afterwards demobilisation was in full swing. The Battalion was gradually reduced in strength, until finally, on the 21st of June, the cadre, under Col. Currin, arrived in England. It was received at Newark by the Mayor, and the Colours were once more placed in the head-quarters from which they had so long been absent.

Casualties.

So far as it is possible to judge, the total casualties were as follows:—

	OFFICERS.	OTHER RANKS.
Killed ..	.. 26	507
Wounded	.. 64	1500

Honours.

The decorations awarded to members of the Battalion whilst serving with the Battalion were as follows:—

D.S.O.	3
Bar	2
M.C.	28
Bar	1
2nd Bar	1
D.C.M.	20
Bar	1
M.M.	76
Bar	2
2nd Bar	1
M.S.M.	7
Mentioned in Despatches ..	32
Foreign Decorations	9

Digitized by Google

In addition, the following were gained by members of the Battalion when serving with other units :—

V.C. (Lt.-Col. B. W. Vann) ..	1
D.S.O.	4
Bar	1
M.C.	3
Bar	1
2nd Bar	1
M.S.M.	3
Mentioned in Despatches ..	7
Foreign Decoration	1

Digitized by Google

XI

2/8TH BATTALION NOTES

IN a short account such as this of the doings of the 2/8th Sherwood Foresters I find it necessary to give most space to the time during which the Battalion was on Active Service, and to pass over quickly the months spent in training at home. With this warning the readers will, I hope, excuse the many omissions of the narrative.

On the 5th September, 1914, a nucleus of 144 all ranks was sent to the Depot at Newark from the 1/8th Sherwood Foresters, then at Harpenden, for the formation of a Reserve Battalion. On September 14th, Lt.-Col. W. Coape Oates was gazetted to command, and the remaining months of the year were occupied in recruiting, equipping, and training the new unit. At the end of January, 1915, a move was made to Luton, where the Battalion was brigaded (178th Infantry Brigade) and met their first line, just before the latter's departure for France. Training continued without special incident till April, when the Battalion was asked to undertake the Imperial Service obligation. Though depleted by a draft of 185 to the 1/8th Battalion, the unit was over 1200 strong, and of these over 1000 were found fit and willing to serve overseas.

Early in June a short move was made to Dunstable, where orders were received to find a draft of 360 for France. This was done, though it was felt that the War Office had broken faith in requiring drafts from an Imperial Service unit. With the pick of the men gone, it took many months to build up the Battalion to its former high level of efficiency. The end was not yet, for in August, after moving to Watford, a further eighty had to be sent abroad.

It is impossible to say much of the eight months spent at Watford, both in camp and in billets, except that for comfort

Digitized by Google

it rivalled even the stay at Newark. The first batches of Derby recruits arrived, and the Battalion was brought up to strength again. Arduous training followed, and inspections were frequent. It will not be out of place to mention how much the Battalion, in common with the whole Brigade, owed during this time to the experience and patience of the Brigade Commander, Brig.-Gen. E. W. Maconchy. By April, 1916, the 59th Division, now under the command of Major-Gen. Sandbach, was ready to go overseas, and signs were not wanting that foreign service was not many weeks ahead.

As usual, the unexpected occurred, and in the early morning of the 24th April the Battalion was entrained for Liverpool at a few hours' notice. The same evening it embarked in two detachments, and the next day was helping to put down the Irish Rebellion in Dublin. The objectives assigned to the 2/8th were Mount Street Schools and Clanwilliam House, both of which, in the neighbourhood of Balls Bridge, were successfully taken. At night the 4th Company, which had crossed by a later boat, came up, and on the morning of the 26th instant the Battalion was relieved for a few hours' rest. Later in the day the Brigade marched to the Royal Hospital, Kilmainham, the Battalion forming the advance guard and having to clear rebel opposition round Rialto Bridge. This ended the fighting in Dublin for the 2/8th, in which they incurred seventy casualties; for the next day they were despatched into the west of Ireland to scotch the local risings in that part.

For a month Mobile Column operations were carried out, an armed force of rebels being dispersed, many arrests made, and arms captured; among places visited were Loughrea, Moyode Castle, Athlone, Athenry, Killaloe, and Ballinasloe. On May 27th we were ordered to the Curragh, where the Battalion refitted, and continued training. In July, owing to extensive cattle driving at Faltia, near Ballinasloe, a move was made into this district. The trouble was soon dealt with, but the Battalion remained on the spot for a month, in the midst of the most delightful surroundings and unlimited hospitality.

From August till January, 1917, we were again stationed at the Curragh, completing musketry and providing yet another draft of 200 men; but in the latter month were ordered to Fovant, on Salisbury Plain, previous to departure

Digitized by Google

for France. On the 27th February the Battalion crossed to Boulogne, and moved, by train and march route, to Warfusée-Abancourt, east of Amiens, where we joined the 3rd Corps, 4th Army. The German withdrawal from the Somme began on March 18th, and the Battalion took part in the consequent advance. One company helped in the capture of Vendelles on the 31st instant, suffering light casualties. Two days later high ground east of the village and a strong point (R 9 A) were occupied, and on April 3rd the Battalion was relieved from the line, being complimented for its work in Corps Orders.

In the early hours of April 7th the 2/8th attacked Le Verguier, which had hitherto repulsed all attempts. Owing to a variety of causes—the weather, uncut wire, weak artillery support, and bad staff work—the attack failed, with a loss of 117 all ranks. A considerable gain of ground had been consolidated, but the Battalion had to be withdrawn before daylight, owing to the retirement of the flanking units of the next division. Major-Gen. Romer, who had recently assumed command of the 59th Division, complimented the Battalion on their night's work and said that the failure, such as it was, was no fault of theirs. Little rest was allowed, and after some days of line-holding on an extended front near Grand Priel Wood the Battalion was ordered to take part in an attack on Hargincourt Quarries on the 27th April. This attack was successful, all the ground gained being consolidated and held, in spite of heavy casualties, including 65 killed. Congratulations were received from the Army and Corps Commanders on the result of the action.

After another spell in the line the Battalion was relieved on May 6th, and soon afterwards moved to the vicinity of Havrincourt Wood. On the 6th June the Battalion went into the line near the villages of Beaucamp and Trescault, and did regular tours of duty till the 9th July, when it went into rest at Le Mesnil-en-Arrouaise. Here a stay of six weeks was made, occupied in refitting and training, while strong drafts joined to bring the unit up to strength. At the end of August a move was made into Belgium, and intensive training for a coming big attack carried out.

Having moved up in front of Ypres on the 24th September, the Battalion proceeded to its position of assembly (Schuller

Digitized by Google

Galleries, 1500 yards S.S.W. of St. Julien) in the early morning of the 26th instant. After a two hours' bombardment, the Battalion went over at 5.50 a.m., leap-frogging through the 2/7th Sherwood Foresters, who had taken the first objective. The ground was in a terrible state, even for Ypres, and the Battalion suffered heavily during the advance from the counter-barrage and from enfilade machine-gun fire. The objectives, including Toronto and Riverside Farms, on a front of 400 yards, were taken and held, in spite of a very heavy Boche bombardment and counter-attack in the evening. On the night 28th/29th the Battalion was relieved and proceeded to the old British front line at Wieltje, where heavy shelling with mustard gas caused many casualties. Next day a move to Vlamertinghe took the Battalion out of the battle area, though the camp was well bombed during the night. In the successful operations in which they had just taken part, and in which the enemy positions were penetrated to a depth of 1500 yards, the 2/8th Sherwood Foresters lost 17 officers and 500 other ranks. Within a few days the C.O., Lt.-Col. Oates, who had been affected by the gas on the 28th instant, was invalided to England, and Major Duncan succeeded him in command.

During the next three weeks the Battalion trekked over a large expanse of country, being nominally at rest and making short stays at Neufpré, near Aire, and at Bomy. Strong reinforcements joined about this time. Towards the end of October the Division moved down to Lens and relieved the Canadians. From the 21st October to the 14th November the Battalion was engaged in line-holding in the Avion sector and had a quiet time.

Following relief, the Battalion moved south to Equancourt, behind Havrincourt Wood, in preparation for the Cambrai offensive. During these operations it was in action before Marcoing and Flesquières, and was finally relieved from the line on the 20th December, proceeding by easy stages to Beaulencourt, near Bapaume. On Christmas Day, 1917, a train move took the Battalion to the village of Monts-en-Ternois, near St. Pol. A very pleasant month was spent in training, recreational or otherwise, and sport; but then the blow fell. Owing to the impossibility of further reinforcements the Battalion was disbanded, the officers and men being

Digitized by Google

drafted to other units of the Sherwood Foresters. A complimentary order from the Commander-in-Chief regretted the necessity for disbandment, stating that no reflection was cast on the efficiency or fighting value of the Battalion. Shortly afterwards a report by the Adjutant-General on the war services of the 2/8th Sherwood Foresters concluded with these words: "In every engagement in which this Battalion took part it upheld the brilliant and glorious traditions of the Sherwood Foresters."

This account cannot be more fittingly closed than by giving the honours and awards gained in less than eleven months of active service:—

D.S.O.	3
M.C.	7
Bar to M.C.	1
O.B.E.	1
D.C.M.	6
Bar to D.C.M.	1
M.M.	6
Mentioned in Despatches ..	14

Digitized by Google

XII

3/8TH BATTALION NOTES

THE work carried out by the Third Line, from the time of its formation to the amalgamation with the 3/7th Battalion, was necessarily unostentatious in form and always plodding in nature. From the beginning there was ever the difficulty of getting recruits and, by comparison, an ever-present superfluity of officers, making the training of the latter deficient, especially in that control and knowledge of men the lack of which was so often deplored by commanding officers on the various fronts.

The task of organising the new unit fell to Lt.-Col. Foljambe, with head-quarters at Newark; but in September, 1915, the Battalion moved to Belton Park, Grantham. By this time invaluable help and advice were available from increasing numbers of officers from the Western Front, and, with the wider scope afforded by Belton Park, training became more strenuous and more in line with the requirements of active service. The call for drafts was incessant, and as fast as each batch of recruits completed its training it was sent away.

In December, 1915, Lt.-Col. Foljambe relinquished command of the Battalion, and it was handed over to Major (afterwards Lt.-Col.) Hodgkinson.

When the "Derby Scheme" began to bear fruit the Battalion became a very live thing, and some fine drafts were sent overseas.

In March, 1916, came the beginning of the end, so far as the 3/8th as a separate unit was concerned. It was then moved from Grantham to the Lincolnshire coast, with head-quarters at Marshchapel. In addition to its primary function of providing material for the fighting line, it was responsible for the defence of several miles of coast-line. Hard training by day and "standing to" in East Coast trenches by night,

Digitized by Google

owing to air raids, invasion scares, etc., formed an excellent prelude to the more serious and stirring work awaiting the recruit. In July, 1916, Capt. R. Whitton, who as Adjutant of the Battalion since March, 1915, had borne a very large share in the vicissitudes as well as in the progress of the Battalion, went to the First Line, and at the end of the following month the Battalion lost its identity, forming, with the 3/7th Battalion, the 7th Reserve Battalion the Sherwood Foresters. During its brief existence the unit sent to France, Ireland, and other seats of war many hundreds of warrant officers, non-commissioned officers and men, as well as upwards of one hundred commissioned officers.

Digitized by Google

XIII

SERVICES OF RETIRED OFFICERS DURING THE WAR

NAME.	HOW EMPLOYED DURING THE WAR.
Capt. A. S. Adkins .	Major, Remount Depot.
Capt. P. F. R. Anley .	Staff Capt. G.S.O. (3), Hd.-Qrs. Dublin. Major R. of O.
Capt. L. A. Bagshawe .	Depot Middlesex Regt.—recruiting duties. Employed at W.O.
Lieut. J. G. Blackburne .	Major, 9th Battn. Sherwood Foresters. Killed in action.
Major L. A. Bosanquet .	Lt.-Col. commanding 9th Battn. Sherwood Foresters. Killed in action.
Major H. J. Bowman .	Lt.-Col. Commandant Prisoner of War Camp.
Lt.-Col. R. Brittan, D.S.O. .	Commanded 14th Res. Battn. Sherwood Foresters and 13th Training Res. Battn.
Capt. L. B. Chamberlain .	R.T.O. France.
Capt. W. H. Climo . .	Adjt. the Depot Derby—recruiting duties. Major R. of O.
Capt. C. J. L. Gilson .	Served with the force sent to Antwerp. Major Commandant Detention Barracks, Derby.
Col. F. C. Godley, M.V.O.	Brig.-Gen. Training Res. Brigade.
Lt.-Col. L. S. Gordon-Cumming .	Commandant Prisoners of War Camp. Employed Mobilisation Directorate at W.O.
Major T. H. M. Green, D.S.O. .	Lt.-Col. Commandant Detention Barracks, Woking.
Major E. A. Gosset .	Served on Recruiting Staff and in the Censor's Office.

Digitized by Google

NAME.	HOW EMPLOYED DURING THE WAR.
Lieut. G. Hazlerigg	10th Battn. Sherwood Foresters.
Capt. R. H. Keller, D.S.O.	Commandant L. of C. Graded D.A.A.G. France. Lt.-Col. R. of O. O.B.E.
Lieut. G. Mayall	Capt. Berkshire R.H.A. Battery.
Lieut. J. N. Meares	Major 3rd Battn. Sherwood Foresters. Staff Capt., Plymouth. G.S.O. (3), Cork.
Lieut. G. W. Moran	Major 10th Battn. Sherwood Foresters and 2nd Battn. Nigeria Regt. Major R. of O.
Capt. A. S. Murray	Major 9th Battn. Sherwood Foresters. Lt.-Col. 6th Battn. N. Staffordshire Regt. Major R. of O. O.B.E.
Capt. F. Porter	Prisoners of War Camp.
Major F. J. Radford	Brigade Major 71st Inf. Brigade. Lt.-Col. Labour Corps. Lt.-Col. R. of O.
Major J. A. Reeks	Commanded Depot Derby. T/ Lt.-Col. O.B.E.
Capt. H. V. Rhodes	R.T.O. France and London. Major R. of O. O.B.E.
Major P. G. Rigby	Served with Canadian Battn. Killed in action.
Capt. R. V. Savile	Employed under Sudan Government. Major R. of O. O.B.E.
Capt. A. K. Slessor	Major 4th Battn. Oxford and Bucks Light Infantry.
Major F. E. V. Taylor	11th Battn. Royal Fusiliers. Draft Conducting Officer.

Digitized by Google

XIV

THINGS THAT MATTER

War Memorials: Nottinghamshire

IN January of last year the Colonel of the Regiment was approached, through the O.C. Depot, by the Bishop of Southwell, asking for the support of a scheme for a Memorial Church to those men of the two counties who had fallen in the war. The Colonel of the Regiment, General Sir Horace Smith-Dorrien, took the view that in any memorial raised to our dead there should be no distinction of creeds, and that he would prefer to support some scheme for one large undenominational memorial for the county. In the meantime the Duke of Portland, Lord-Lieutenant of Nottinghamshire, convened a City and County Meeting to discuss the subject of a County War Memorial, and at this, held on the 26th March, it was decided to issue an appeal for £100,000 in aid of the extension of Nottingham General Hospital as a war memorial "to the sailors and soldiers belonging to the City and County of Nottingham who have fallen in the War."

War Memorials: Derbyshire

As a result of inquiries made, it appears that there is no one scheme for any general war memorial, but practically every town and village in the county has its own individual war memorial either already erected or in process of erection.

In neither county does there appear to be any intention of providing a special war memorial to the dead of the county Regiment.

Prisoners-of-War Care Committee

We have received a report of the financial work of this Committee, giving an all too brief account of its labours from

Digitized by Google

the 30th November, 1917, to the closing of the fund. The account has been examined by Messrs. Wilshire Hall and Co., Chartered Accountants, and is certified as correct. The Committee received and disbursed the sum of £42,039 12s. 7d., and closed with a balance in hand of £67 4s. 10d. The following is of interest: the number of Sherwood Foresters prisoners of war increased from 910 in November, 1917, to 2798 on the signing of the Armistice. Of this number there were—

In Germany	2634
In Austria	7
In Turkey	2
Interned in Holland	108
Interned in Switzerland	43
In Bulgaria	4

In addition, there were 486 of the 7th and 8th Battalions' prisoners in the care of the Nottingham Fund.

During the year 4 men escaped into Holland and were sent home, 63 were repatriated, 156 died in captivity, and up to the date of the preparation of the Report 10 men remain unaccounted for, being still officially described as "prisoners of war."

The Sherwood Foresters Prisoners-of-War Care Committee packed for the following:—

Sherwood Foresters	1751
2/1st North Midland Field Ambulance	37
Grenadier Guards	2
Royal Fusiliers	1
K.O. Yorkshire L.I.	1
Highland L.I.	1
Civilian	1

The following local Packing Associations undertook to pack and send food to prisoners from their own towns and districts:—

Nottingham, 598; Leicester, 68; Ilkeston, 43; Newark, 43; Wolverhampton, 28; P.O. Relief Fund, 19; Burton, 17; Blackburn, 8; Luton, 6; Cheltenham, 5; Cardiff, 5; Swansea, Southport, Salvation Army, Biggleswade, and Warrington, 2 each; Gravesend, Dundee, Portsmouth, Scarborough, and Halifax, 1 each.

Digitized by Google

From November, 30th, 1917, to August, 1918, the Committee continued to send 3 parcels, each of 10 lbs., fortnightly, and after August 1st 1 parcel weekly, increasing the weight to 15 lbs.

In all, from November, 1917, to the Armistice there were despatched 55,080 food parcels, 7757 clothing parcels, and 603 of tobacco and cigarettes.

The Committee conclude their report by thanking all who helped them. May we, on behalf of all readers of the Regimental Annual, offer our most grateful thanks to the Committee for their long-enduring labour of love?

Old 45th Colours

Mr. H. S. Crichton Starkey, of Messrs. Lydall, 37 John Street, Bedford Row, called some time ago at the War Office, saw there Major Grubb, and stated that he was in possession of some portions of the old Colours of the 45th Regiment and would like to hand them over to somebody in the 1st Battalion. Major Grubb communicated with Brig.-Gen. Roy, C.M.G., who interviewed Mr. Starkey. This gentleman stated that the pieces he produced were given to him when he was about four years old by his father, and he understood from what he was told that they were what was left of the old Colours when these were sent for repair on the return home of the 45th Regiment in the "Seventies." When given to him, Mr. Starkey says that "the Regimental Colour, with the Union Jack in the top left-hand corner, was about four feet square. The centre had been cut out, and the Battle Honour scrolls were hanging from it." He cut these scrolls and the Union Jack from the top left corner of the Colours, and regrets that as a boy he did so. The rest of the Colours, which was in green silk, he threw away. He does not know where they came from, but his father was in business and traded in gold and silver lace for uniforms in Savile Row, where he commenced business about 1837. The father died at eighty-two years of age.

The pieces handed over by Mr. Starkey to Brig.-Gen. Roy, and now passed on to the 1st Battalion, consist of a small Union Jack, about 22 inches square, the centres of the Queen's and Regimental Colours, and six Battle Honour scrolls.

Digitized by Google

A Sikkim Memorial

Early in 1918 Col. Maxwell received a letter from a friend resident in Darjeeling informing him of the following: In an old municipal *godown*, buried beneath the accumulation of rubbish of nearly thirty years, there had just been discovered a marble slab, described as being "as big as a dining table," bearing on it the names of all those soldiers of the 2nd Battalion of our Regiment and of the Mountain Battery which served with us in the Sikkim Expedition of 1888, of the men of the Connaught Rangers who relieved us at Gnatong early in 1889, and of the men of the Queen's who found the last garrison on that frontier, who had been killed in action or who had died during those years. The tablet bore a further inscription stating that it had been subscribed for by residents of Darjeeling, whose wish it was that it should be erected at or near the little cemetery at Gnatong, where these soldiers were buried.

It is not known how this memorial tablet should for so long have been forgotten, but, on its discovery, the church in Darjeeling and the military chapels at Jelapahar and Lebong all seem to have preferred a claim to the erection of the tablet within their walls. The letter received by Col. Maxwell was brought to the notice of the Colonel of our Regiment, who put himself in communication with the Deputy Commissioner of Darjeeling, urging that the wishes of the original subscribers should be respected, with the result that the tablet was conveyed to Gnatong and now stands at the entrance to the cemetery where our comrades lie.

Change of Title

It is well known that, in accordance with the general wish of the Regiment, our Colonel has several times represented that "Foresters" should be borne on the shoulder straps instead of as heretofore "Notts and Derby." It is believed that the attitude of the Committee dealing with such matters is hopeful, and that while the present full title will be retained, that for ordinary correspondence will be "The Sherwood Foresters," the abbreviated title for orders, etc., as well as for shoulder straps, being "Foresters."

Digitized by Google

The Regimental Dinner

1st and 2nd Battalions.—This annual festival, which was last held in June, 1914, was revived last year, being held, as on previous occasions, at Claridge's Hotel. In the much regretted absence of the Colonel of the Regiment, the Chair was taken by Lt.-Gen. Sir W. R. Marshall, K.C.B., K.C.S.I.; while the guest of the evening was Major F. Tomlinson, M.C., Quartermaster of the 2nd Battalion, and the only officer of either Battalion who has served throughout the war as a regimental officer with the same unit. The other officers present were: Lt.-Gen. Sir F. C. Shaw, K.C.B.; Major-Gen. B. F. Burnett-Hitchcock, C.B., D.S.O.; Brig.-Gens. H. A. Iggulden, C.I.E., and P. Leveson-Gower, C.M.G., D.S.O.; Cols. P. H. Dalbiac, C.B., J. W. G. Roy, C.M.G., and H. C. Wylly, C.B.; Lt.-Cols. W. D. S. Brownrigg, D.S.O., E. C. Dowse, T. H. M. Green, D.S.O., C. D. Harvey, D.S.O., R. H. Keller, D.S.O., N. Knatchbull, J. McCleverty, T. M. Maxwell, H. M. Milward, D.S.O., R. G. Munn, C.M.G., A. S. Murray, O.B.E., R. L. Sherbrooke, D.S.O., R. J. F. Taylor, and B. V. G. Way, C.B.E., M.V.O.; Majors H. B. Hume, O.B.E., E. A. G. Gosset, J. H. Mathias, O.B.E., J. N. Meares, C. Parkinson, M.V.O., H. B. D. Willcox, D.S.O., M.C., J. Crealock, J. H. Wybergh, R. B. Young, and Miller; Capts. C. C. S. Crofton, W. H. Douglas, M.C., G. D. Edwards, J. E. H. Maxwell, M.C., H. V. Rhodes, O.B.E., and F. F. Loyd; Lieuts. W. A. Ebbsworth and W. A. Platt—a total of 41.

That year, for the first time, a Réunion for ladies of these battalions was held at the same place and on the same afternoon; it was a great success, some forty ladies and a few bold spirits of the other sex being present.

The 45th Annual Dinner was held on the 3rd June, 1920, at the Langham Hotel, when the following officers were present: The Rt. Hon. Sir F. C. Shaw, K.C.B., in the Chair; Major-Gens. Burnett-Hitchcock, C.B., D.S.O., and Sir F. Maurice, K.C.M.G., C.B.; Brig.-Gens. Atkins, Campbell, Crofton, Iggulden, C.I.E., Leveson-Gower, C.M.G., D.S.O., Roy, C.M.G., and Wolley-Dod, C.B., D.S.O.; Cols. Dalbiac, C.B., McCleverty, and Wylly, C.B.; Lt.-Cols. Brownrigg, D.S.O., Dowse, Gordon-Cumming, Green, D.S.O., Keller, O.B.E., D.S.O., Murray, O.B.E., Popham, C.M.G., D.S.O., Way,

Digitized by Google

C.B.E., M.V.O., and Wilson ; Majors Anley, Crealock, Gosset, Hart, D.S.O., Harvey, D.S.O., Hudson, V.C., D.S.O., M.C., Hume, O.B.E., Luther, Meares, Parkinson, M.V.O., Porter, Rhodes, O.B.E., Slessor, and Webb ; Capts. Crofton, Edwards, Loyd, O'Dwyer, D.F.C., Miller, M.C., O.B.E., and Willcox, D.S.O., M.C. ; Lieut. Slaughter. The Ladies Réunion took place on the same afternoon and at the same place, and was very largely attended.

Royal Garden Party

The following are the names of those members of the Regiment who are wearers of the Victoria Cross and who attended the King's Garden Party at Buckingham Palace on the 26th June, 1920 :—

Pte. W. Bees.
Corpl. James Upton.
Capt. Charles Geoffry Vickers.
2nd Lieut. Alfred Joseph Knight.
Corpl. Ernest Albert Egerton.
Corpl. Fred Greaves.
Bt.-Major Charles Edward Hudson.

95th Medals

The 2nd Battalion has lately acquired two notable medals formerly belonging to an officer and a private who served in the 95th in Central India and the Crimea. The same Colonel Parsons who sent us the obituary notice of Sergeant Cogan was instrumental in giving information about the whereabouts of the Central India medal awarded to Ensign Leonard Knipe, who served with the 95th in Central India, afterwards transferring to another regiment ; and this medal was fortunately acquired for the officers' mess, 2nd Battalion. The other medal was the Sardinian medal—Al valore militare—awarded to Private James Keenan of the 95th, who, at the Alma, when nearly all the Colour party had been shot down, seized the Queen's Colour and planted it in the great Russian redoubt. It was the only Sardinian medal given to a private soldier of the regiment in the Crimea. This medal had passed into the hands of a private collector

Digitized by Google

at a sale at Messrs, Glendinnings, but being communicated with he at once most generously resigned it, on learning that it was wanted for Keenan's old regiment, and a number of old officers of the 2nd Battalion subscribed to purchase it, mount it in a suitable case, and present it to the *Men* of the Battalion, by whom we may be sure it will be greatly prized.

Digitized by Google

XV

WHERE ARE THE BOYS OF THE OLD BRIGADE?

HAVING been requested to carry on the series commenced by the late Q.M.S. Fielding under the above heading, I have endeavoured to get the most accurate information concerning our Old Comrades as possible.

Owing to the fact that such a large number responded to the call of Country in the memorable days of August, 1914, the work has been rather heavy. If any of our Old Comrades that I have missed this year will write to me at the Depot or see me at the next Annual Dinner at Nottingham, I shall only be too pleased to meet them and get all particulars.

T. P. THOMPSON,
Q.M. Sergeant,
Depot The Sherwood Foresters.

On the Depot being placed on a peace footing once more, the undermentioned were posted to the Permanent Establishment of the 3rd Battalion on 25th October, 1919:—

R.S.M. Peterkin, W. (M.C.) .	Served with 1st Battn. as R.S.M. 1914 and after as R.S.M. 3rd Battn. Then posted to 23rd Battn. Northumberland Fusiliers as R.S.M. Gained the Military Cross for very distinguished service with that Battn. P. of W. March 1918.
R.Q.M.S. Parker, L. . .	2nd Battn. Served throughout the campaign with 9th Battn., Gallipoli and France, as R.Q.M.S.
Q.M.S. Thompson, T. P. .	2nd Battn. Served throughout the campaign with 9th Battn., Gallipoli and France. Now O.R.S. Depot.
C.S.M. Sadler, G. J. . .	1st Battn. Served also with 11th Battn. as C.S.M. Wounded in action twice.
C.S.M. Unwin, A. . .	2nd Battn. Served with 15th Battn. (Bantams) in France.

Digitized by Google

C.S.M. Wilson, J.	Army Res. Served with 9th Battn. in Gallipoli. Wounded and invalided and afterwards with 2nd Battn. Then appointed T/R.S.M. of 6th Battn. and served with that Battn. until 1918. Afterwards Acting R.S.M. of War-time Est. of Depot.
C.Q.M.S. Shelton, J. H. (D.C.M.)	1st Battn. Served throughout campaign with that Battn. and was awarded D.C.M. for special service.
C.Q.M.S. Richards, G. W. (M.M.)	1st Battn. Served throughout the campaign with that Battn. Awarded the Military Medal for gallantry in the Field.
C.Q.M.S. Crowson, W.	Late Perm. Staff of 4th Battn. Performed good work as C.Q.M.S. during the War with that Battn.
C.Q.M.S. Pain, W. J.	Transferred from N.S. Regt. during the campaign. Served with N.S. Regt. in France 1914 and after with 1st Garr. Battn. Sherwood Foresters E.E.F.
Sgt.-Mr.-Ck. Barratt, F.	2nd Battn. Served as Master-Cook with that Battn. during the whole of the campaign.
Sgt.-Dmr. Hillier, G.	Band 2nd Battn. With 2nd Battn up to Oct. 1914. P. of W. 1914. Mentioned in Sir John French's Despatch 1915.
Sgt. Watson, C.	2nd Battn. Served B.E.F. to 20/10/14. P. of W.
Sgt. Mortimer, L.	2nd Battn. M.G.S. P. of W. 20/10/1914.
Sgt. Brittle, T.	Regular Est. attached 3rd Battn. 1914. Did good service as Drill Instr. with O.T. Corps during campaign.
Sgt. Handley, A.	2nd Battn. P. of W. 21/10/1904.
Sgt. Fielding, H. L. R.	1st Battn. Son of late Lieut. and Q.M. of 3rd Battn. Served with 1st, 9th, and 10th Battns. Wounded five times.

The following past members of the Regiment have returned and rendered service as under :—

ex-Sgt. Allsebrooke, H.	Orderly Room Clerk 4th Battn. Served on Clerical Staff of the War-time Est. of Depot. Now demobilised and employed as M.O.'s Clerk, Military Hospital, Derby.
ex-Pte. Allen, G.	1st and 2nd Battns. Rejoined August 1914 and served during the whole of the campaign with 9th Battn. Now living in Mansfield.

Digitized by Google

ex-Cpl. Antrobus, J. . .	1st Battn. Rejoined Sept. 1914 and did good work with 10th Battn. in B.E.F. Afterwards employed with Labour Corps, France.
ex-Sgt.-Mr.-Sh.-Mkr. Battersby, C. H.	Served with 2nd Battn. right through the campaign as Sgt.-Mr.-Sh.-Mkr. Now employed at General Post Office, Nottingham.
ex-C.-Sgt. Bourne, G. . .	Served on Clerical Staff of Depot during the War.
ex-C.S. Blackwell, J. . .	Perm. Est. of 3rd Battn. Discharged M.U. 1917 and employed with Ministry of Labour. Now Chief Clerk, Recruiting Officer, Derby.
ex-Sgt. Buckley, J. . .	Served on War Est. of Depot as C.S.M, Mentioned in Despatches. Demobilised Feb. 1919. Now employed with Messrs. Rolls-Royce, Derby.
ex-C.S. Benford, L. . .	Late Perm. Staff. of 8th Battn. Granted Reg. Commission 1915. Served with 1st Battn. in B.E.F. as officer i/c Divisional Canteen. Wounded three times. Now retired pay.
ex-C.S. Bull, F.	Late Perm. Staff 3rd Battn. Died suddenly at Ashbourne Sept. 1914.
ex-C.S. Brompton, C. . .	Late Perm. Staff 4th Battn. Served with 20th (Labour) Battn. B.E.F. as C.S.M.
ex-C.S. Beecroft, J. . .	Mine Host of the Swan Hotel, Retford. Was O.Mess Caterer for many Battns. during the War.
Sgt. Basham, A. C. . .	Band 2nd Battn. Served in B.E.F. 2nd Battn. Severely wounded. After with 9th Battn., Gallipoli and France. Died of wounds with 9th Battn.
ex-R.S.M. Booker, W. . .	Perm. Staff 3rd Battn. Was appointed first Qr.-Mr. 9th Battn. Afterwards served with 4th and 17th Battns. Now Qr.-Mr. 1st Battn.
ex-Pte. Bench, W. . .	(Billie). Served with 1st and 2nd Battns. B.E.F. Now to pension and employed in Accountant's Dept. at Messrs. Rolls-Royce, Derby.
ex-C.S. Cope, E. C. . .	Perm. Staff of 5th Battn. Appointed R.S.M. of 2/5th Battn. Served in B.E.F. and awarded the Military Cross for distinguished service with that Battn. P. of W. March 1918. Now mine host of The Barley Mow Hotel, Stapenhill, Burton-on-Trent.
ex-R.S.M. Crummey, B. B. .	ex-R.S.M. 2nd Battn. Rejoined N. Stafford Regt. on outbreak of War. Employed with Record Office, Lichfield, as Superintending Clerk.

Digitized by Google

ex-C.S. Cobb, C. . .	Late Perm. Staff of 4th Battn. To pension and employed as gate-keeper at Messrs. Rolls-Royce, Derby.
ex-Sgt. Courtney, R. J. .	Late Perm. Staff of 8th Battn. Re-enlisted 1914 and served with D.L.I. in B.E.F.
C.S.M. Coxon, W. . .	Late Perm. Staff 4th Battn. Well known as Provost Sgt. 3rd Battn. Now proprietor of a flourishing hotel in Nottinghamshire.
Bd.-Sgt. Carbury, C. . .	Band Sgt. 1st Battn. Served with that Battn. in B.E.F. and promoted R.Q.M.S. Now to Pension.
ex-R.Q.M.S. Downes, T. .	R.Q.M.S. of 3rd Battn. throughout the War. Now to pension and employed with Ministry of Pensions, Derby.
ex-Sgt. Dames, J. . .	Was employed at War Office. Emigrated to Canada. Joined Princess Pats.' L.I. Killed in Action at Ypres April 1915.
ex-C.S. Frow, J. C. . .	Re-enlisted Aug. 1914. Formerly C.S. of H. Coy. 2nd Battn., appoin ted R.Q.M.S. of 9th Battn. and afterwards promoted R.S.M. of that Battn. Severely wounded 21/8/191 5 at Gallipoli. Invalided to Engla and afterwards appointed R.S.M. o 3rd Battn. Demobilised and em-ployed on Staff of G.P.O. Notting-ham.
ex-Q.M.S. Fielding, S. . .	Promoted Q.M. 3rd Battn. Died at Crown Hill, November 1914.
ex-C.S. Freeman, W. . .	Late Perm. Staff of 4th Battn. Inva-lided to pension 1915 and now employed as technical storekeeper at Messrs. Rolls-Royce, Derby.
ex-C.S. Farnsworth, F. .	Re-enlisted 1914. Served with 14th and 15th Battns. Now demobilised and employed with G.P.O., Notting-ham.
ex-C.S. Foulds, R. . .	Late Perm. Staff of 4th Battn. To pension and living at Draycott.
ex-Sgt. Fox, J. . . .	Well known as Sgt. in 2nd Battn. Band and after Perm. Staff of 4th Battn. Now steward of a club in Notting-ham.
ex-C.S. Francis, G. . .	Late Perm. Staff of 7th Battn. Went to B.E.F. as R.S.M. of 7th Battn. Now to pension and employed with Ministry of Pensions, Nottingham.
Sgt. Frood, E. . . .	1st and 2nd Battns. Served with 9th Battn. in M.E.F. and B.E.F. as C.M.S. of "D" Coy. Killed in action, B.E.F.

Digitized by Google

ex-R.Q.M.S. Glover, J. H.	Employed as Mobilisation Store Keeper at Depot. Re-enlisted Sept. 1914 and appointed R.Q.M.S. of War Est. of Depot. Did splendid work in Q.M. Stores. Now demobilised and resumed former employment.
ex-Sgt. Gilham, J. (D.C.M.)	Re-enlisted Aug. 1914. Served with 9th Battn., Gallipoli. Killed in action 9/8/1915.
ex-C.S. Grosvenor, F.	Perm. Staff 4th Battn. Served with 16th Battn. in B.E.F. as C.Q.M.S.
ex-R.S.M. Gurney, C.	With Yeoman of the Guard. Tower of London.
ex-C.S. Hallam, A.	Was employed as Paid Pensioner Recruiter at Nottingham with Major McGuire during the War and rendered splendid service in that capacity. Now living in the Regimental Cottages Home at Mickleover.
ex-Bd.-Mr. Howarth, S.	Late Bd.-Mr. of the 2nd Battn. Served in M.E.F. with Lancashire Field Artillery. Now a very popular canteen manager at the Depot where he sells beer to budding Sherwood Foresters and Old Soldiers. Has two sons still serving with 1st and 2nd Battns. Also one son who died of wounds as 2nd Lieut.
ex-Q.M.S. Harbridge, G.	Late O.R.S. 4th Battn. Served during War as R.Q.M.S. Now to pension and employed as a storekeeper in Nottingham.
ex-C.M.S. Hollis, F.	Late Perm. Staff 3rd Battn. Afterwards A/R.S.M. 3rd Battn. Now to pension and living in Derby.
ex-R.S.M. Harwood, A.	Late 4th Battn. Perm. Staff and R.S.M. of 1st Battn. on arrival home in Nov. 1914. Granted a Commission and posted to a Territorial Battn. Now retired and living at Brighton.
ex-C.S. Hull, J.	Late Perm. Staff 4th Battn. Re-enlisted Sept. 1914 and appointed R.S.M. of 11th Battn. Rendered gallant service in B.E.F. and afterwards died of wounds received in action.
ex-S.M. Herrod, J.	Was C.S. of H. Coy. 1st Battn. Rejoined 1914 and did splendid work as C.Q.M.S. on War Est. of Depot. Afterwards employed as Special Recruiter at Chesterfield. Now demobilised and living in Derby.

Digitized by Google

ex-C.S. Hare, E. . . .	Late Perm. Staff 7th Battn. Appointed R.S.M. of 2/7th Battn. and served in B.E.F. Now demobilised.
C.S.M. Hancock, J. G. . .	Late Perm. Staff of 8th Battn. Served with 2nd Battn. B.E.F. P. of W. Mar. 1918. Afterwards employed with R.O., Derby. Now posted to Perm. Staff of 6th Battn. at Chesterfield on reconstruction of Territorial Force.
ex-Bd.-Sgt. Hall, J. . .	Late Bd.-Sgt. 2nd Battn. Rejoined Sept. 1914 and served with 11th Battn. B.E.F. as C.S.M. Now demobilised and employed with Metropolitan Tubes Police.
ex-Q.M.S. Johnson, R. (Bob)	O.R.S. 1st Battn. Served with 3rd Echelon during the campaign as Superintending Clerk (Yorkshire Sect.). To pension 1917 and employed with State Railways, Bombay.
Sgt.-Mr.-Tr. Igo, P. . .	Re-enlisted Sept. 1914 and served with 10th Battn. at Wool, afterwards appointed Mr.-Tr. of War-time Est. Depot. Now demobilised and employed as Civilian Mr.-Tr., Depot.
ex-C.S. Keith, J. W. . .	Re-enlisted in Territorial Force 1914. Granted Commission as Q.M. 5th Battn. April 1915. Served in B.E.F. with 5th Battn. now appointed Q.M. of 5th Battn. on reconstruction of Territorial Force.
C.S.I.M. Kieran, F.M. . .	Perm. Staff 8th Battn. Served with 3rd Line T.F. during War and afterwards R.S.M. of Dispersal Unit, Clipstone. Now posted to Perm. Staff of 8th Battn, on reconstruction of Territorial Force.
ex-Sgt. Locker, A. (Brother)	Well known as a Big Drummer. Joined up in Sept. 1914 and posted to the Leicestershire Regt. Now demobilised and living in Derby.
ex-C.S. Maplethorpe, J. .	Perm. Staff of 5th Battn. Appointed R.S.M. of 3/5th Battn. Proceeded B.E.F. 1917 and appointed R.S.M. of "K" I.D.B. Now demobilised.
C.S. Murphy, J. . . .	Reg. Est. 3rd Battn. 1914. Appointed A/R.S.M. 3rd Battn. 1914. Proceeded to France to join 1st Battn. and promoted R.S.M. Invalided to England 1918. To pension and employed as Barrack Warden, Cannock Chase.

Digitized by Google

ex-R.S.M. Murphy, T. . .	Well known as R.S.M. of the "Robin Hoods." Re-enlisted 1914 and joined 9th Battn. Served at Gallipoli and severely wounded 9/8/1915. Now demobilised and employed in Lace Market, Nottingham.
ex-C.S. Marriott, J. W. (M.C.)	Re-enlisted 1914. Served in B.E.F. as Q.M. with 17th Battn. Awarded the Military Cross. Now demobilized and living at Matlock Bath.
C.S.M. Mansell, E. . .	Perm. Staff 4th Battn. during War, afterwards employed at Dispersal Centre, Ripon. To pension 1919.
ex-C.S. Simpson, F. . .	Re-enlisted 1914 and did good service with 10th Battn. B.E.F.
C.S.M. Mountenay, W. (D.C.M.)	Perm. Staff 8th Battn. Served with that Battn. as R.S.M. B.E.F. Awarded D.C.M. for gallant conduct and the Belgian Croix de Guerre. Mentioned in Sir Douglas Haig's despatches. Now R.S.M. of 8th Battn., Newark on reconstruction of Territorial Force.
C.S.M. Mortimer, F. . .	Perm. Staff 7th Battn. Served in B.E.F. as R.S.M. Reported "Missing," afterwards reported "killed in action."
Sgt.-Dmr. Makepeace, R. .	Re-enlisted Oct. 1914 and became Sgt.-Dmr. of 9th Battn. Severely wounded at Gallipoli 9/8/1915. Now demobilised and employed at Somerset House, London.
ex-R.S.M. Naden, A. . .	Re-enlisted Sept. 1914 and became 1st R.S.M. of the 15th Battn. (Bantams) during present campaign. Died Feb. 1920 and buried with full military honours by Depot.
ex-Sgt. Orange, G. . .	Re-enlisted Sept. 1914. Did consistent good work on War-time Est. of Depot. Now living Balaclava Road, Derby.
ex-C.S. Parker, F. C. . .	Re-enlisted Aug. 1914. Appointed R.S.M. of the 14th Battn. Granted commission and employed with Graduated Battns. as Captain and Adjt. Afterwards Recruiting Officer, Derby. Now Officer Commanding "A" Coy., Depot.
ex-C.S. Pullen, E. . .	Perm. Staff of 6th Battn. Went to B.E.F. as R.S.M. of 6th Battn., afterwards R.S.M. of Convalescent Camp B.E.F. Now to pension and living in Bakewell.
ex-C.S. Paulson, E. . .	Re-enlisted Sept. 1914 and served with 10th Battn. in B.E.F.

Digitized by Google

Cpl. Pickford, D. (D.C.M.)	Army Reserve. Posted to 9th Battn. Served M.E.F. and B.E.F. Died of wounds received in action 26/9/1916.
C.S. Platts, T.	Late Perm. Staff of 3rd Battn. Granted regular commission and served B.E.F. with 2nd Battn. Now retired pay and mine host of a flourishing hotel in Nottingham.
ex-C.S. Renwick, W. L.	Re-enlisted 1914. Granted commission and appointed Adjt. and Q.M. of. the 15th Battn. Severely wounded B.E.F. Afterwards employed as Major, Labour Corps.
ex-C.S. Rice, A. A.	Late 2nd Battn. and Perm. Staff 5th Battn. Granted commission and posted to L.N. Lancs. Regt. Served B.E.F. 1915–16. Afterwards Adjt. and Q.M. of same Regt. Now demobilised and poultry farming, Darley Dale.
ex-R.S.M. Randall, C. D.	Re-enlisted Aug. 1914 and posted to 9th Battn. as R.S.M. Granted commission as Lieut. and appointed T/Capt. in that Battn. Commanded Letter "C" Coy. at Gallipoli and killed in action while gallantly leading that Coy. on 9/8/1915.
ex-R.S.M. Skerritt, B. H.	Mobilisation Storekeeper, Glen Parva. Re-enlisted Aug. 1914 and served as R.Q.M.S. at that Depot throughout the War. Now demobilised and resumed former employment.
ex-R.Q.M.S. Simnett, T.	Late O.R.S. 2nd Battn. and Canteen Manager, Depot, August 1914. Now employed with N.A.C.B. Rhine Army.
ex-C.S. Seaton, W.	Perm. Staff 6th Battn. Granted commission and rose to Major. Served in B.E.F. Now Adjt. 6th Battn. Chesterfield on reconstruction of Territorial Force.
ex-Sgt. Shaw, F.	Late 2nd Battn. (The Jolly Hussar). Re-enlisted Aug. 1914, being the second man to enlist for one year in the Regt. on the outbreak of hostilities. Became C.Q.M.S. of "C" Coy. Severely wounded on 9/8/1915 at Gallipoli. Afterwards R.S.M. Northern Command Depot, Ripon. Later granted Commission in Labour Corps. Now living in Sheffield.
ex-C.S. Skinner, W. H.	Re-enlisted Aug. 1914. Appointed C.S.M. of "D" Coy. 9th Battn., afterwards served with 19th Battn. and Durham Light Infantry.

Digitized by Google

ex-C.S. Torrance, F. . .	Re-enlisted in T. Force 1914. Granted Commission and posted to 8th Battn. as Q.M. Served in B.E.F. 1915–18. Now living St. Thomas's Road, Derby.
ex-Pte. Twidale, E. . .	Sect. "D" A.R. Served with 2nd Battn. B.E.F. 9th Battn. M.E.F. and B.E.F., afterwards T/R.S.M. of 2/7th Battn. Died of wounds received in action.
ex-C.Q.M.S. Unwin, B. .	Served B.E.F. 1st Battn. Severely wounded. Afterwards 3rd Battn. Granted Regular Commission as 2nd Lieut. and posted to 9th Battn. B.E.F. Retired with gratuity and farming at Darley Dale.
ex-C.S. Wells, W. . .	Late Perm. Staff of 4th Battn. To pension and employed with Derby Corporation Trams.
ex-Sgt. Waring, S. . .	Late 1st Battn. Granted Permanent Commission 1914 and posted to Leicester Regt. Severely wounded 1914. Afterwards Flight Lieut. R.F.C. Now retired pay and employed as Inspector Ministry of Pensions, Belfast.
ex-C.S. Westerman, A. E. .	Perm. Staff 8th Battn., afterwards R.S.M. 8th Battn. and granted, commission as Lieut. Served in B.E.F. Now demobilised and proprietor of motor garage, Derby.
ex-C.S. Wheeler, H. . .	Late C.S.M.I.M. of 3rd Battn. and R.Q.M.S. 4th Battn. Discharged to pension and employed at the brewery, Newark.
ex-R.S.M. Walker, C. (D.C.M.)	Perm. Staff 5th Battn. Granted commission and served with T.F. Units as Capt. and Adjt. Now demobilised and employed with Messrs. Bemrose and Sons, Derby.
ex-C.S. Waine, E. . .	Late Perm. Staff 6th Battn. Re-enlisted and became R.S.M. of a composite unit at Crystal Palace. Now demobilized and living at Belper.
C.S.M. Walker, F. G. . .	Perm. Staff 8th Battn. Served in B.E.F. as R.S.M. 16th Cheshires and M.G.C. Battns. Now R.S.M. of F.S. Details, M.G.C., Shorncliffe.
ex-Sgt.-Dmr. Bloomfield, A. E. .	Re-enlisted Aug. 1914. Served with Staff of 3rd Battn. Now demobilised and living at Belper.
C.S.M. Blanchard, A. . . (D.C.M.)	1st Battn. Wounded twice and posted to 3rd Battn., afterwards Duty and Dispersal Centre, Ripon. Now owns a prosperous business in Derby.
C.S.M. Raynor, H. . .	1st Battn. Served B.E.F. as T/R.S.M. of that Battn. 1916–18. Still serving.

T. P. T., Q.M.S.

Digitized by Google

XVI

EX-SERGT-MAJOR C. D. RANDALL, D.C.M.

BY MAJOR C. J. L. GILSON

THE word "comrade" is derived from the Latin "camera"—a chamber, having reference to a chamber with a vaulted, or arched, roof. Hence, it came that "comrades" were those who shared the same fortunes in bivouac or camp; who, by night, slept side by side beneath the canopy of the stars. The word, in this sense, is first used in the English language by Shakespeare:—

> "I adjure all roof and choose . . .
> To be a *comrade* with the wolf and owl."

Noble word, as it ever was, suggestive at once of Friendshp and the Open Air, the world-tragedy through which we have passed and the feelings of regret we can scarcely fail to experience, when we remember that never again can we grip by the hand one who was a dear and faithful comrade in the past, seem to have charged its meaning with a deeper, more personal significance.

That is indeed, so much so, that, in writing of an old comrade who has passed over to the Other Side, and who, moreover, met his death in such a manner that all who knew him must find their sorrow extenuated by a thrill of pride—if one is to attempt to do justice to his memory—it is impossible to avoid a personal note. Of every man, it may be said that many know what he *does*, but few what he *is*. He of whom I write had many comrades; but I like to remember that he told me once that he counted myself and one other officer as the two best comrades of all.

That was in a way natural enough. It is my only claim to write of him. He and I were of about the same age. As

Digitized by Google

THE LATE EX-SERGT.-MAJOR RANDALL,
D.C.M.

Facing page 82

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

little more than boys we found ourselves thrown in the way of one another—the one, a company commander; the other, his colour-sergeant. There were long days in that war on the line of march; long nights on picquet in the great chamber of the veldt. No war of blood and mud and murder; one lived in the midst of wide spaces, seeking adventure in the fresh air of heaven. In such an atmosphere, in such desolate and charmed environment, given the joyousness and hope of youth, the true spirit of comradeship is surely fostered.

We would talk sometimes by the picquet-fire, or as we tramped mile upon mile upon those broad sun-burned plains that never seemed to end. And thus it was that I came to know something of the man—the man that lay underneath the soldier.

When, at last, our ways parted he did not fail to write to me. And in those letters, once again, I was brought to realise Randall as he really was. He wrote as a comrade should, opening his heart, telling me his plans and hopes and regrets. He was capable of expressing his thoughts both in writing and by speech. Those who were at the Old Comrades' Dinner in Nottingham in 1913 will well remember the speech in which, without once faltering for a word, he referred to the "commanding personality in the Chair"—a speech to which Sir Horace Smith-Dorrien himself was not slow to pay tribute.

The letters of such a man to one whom he regarded as a friend, wherein he set down his thoughts just as they entered his head, convey a far more accurate and vivid portrait of his personality than can be attained in any impersonal obituary notice, however laudatory and pleasing. Let me quote from one, written a few months before the outbreak of the war, some time after he had left the 1st Battalion in India, and found himself obliged, at a comparatively early age, to start life afresh as a civilian.

"In recent years," he wrote, "I have frequently questioned my father's policy in developing the soldierly instinct in me to the exclusion of all others; for, all my fidelity as a soldier is an extremely speculative asset, now that those who were part and parcel of my life are so widely dispersed.

"To me the Army was a religion. And now, at thirty-five, I find myself in civilian garb, with very few friends, and

Digitized by Google

afflicted with that most deadly of all diseases for a young man, a brain-full of memories. . . . I find myself a hundred and fifty years of age with regard to knowledge of men, fifty in knowledge of the world, and fifteen in regard to women.

"After my exceptionally active life in the Regiment, I found the peace and quietness of a Sussex village intolerable; so I migrated to London. With a heap of money, and full of earnest endeavour, I entirely failed to obtain a post suitable to the dignity of a warrant officer. I felt that I owed it to the officers to do something they would expect of me. I really wanted to be amongst books, and actually offered my services free to some booksellers, who regarded me as a lunatic.

"My loneliness made me very despondent, and I even envied the poor devils on the Embankment, many of whom had company—of a sort. I tried to sneak out to the Turks in Tripoli, for I fancied myself as a subordinate leader in the field. Some Insurance Companies eventually tried to scoop me up; but, seeking expert advice, I underwent a course of study for six months, and acting on the same adviser's instructions, eventually established myself here, in an elaborate suite of offices, as an Independent Broker.

"I had to bluff like a Yankee, but gradually made the progress necessary to keep me going. . . . Through being over-honest, I am afraid, I have been beaten in the race over and over again. Still, I would infinitely prefer failure to unclean tactics, although I make no pretence to being a moralist. As matters stand at present, I can maintain my present expenses for at least five years, and if I cannot increase my turn-over tenfold in that period I certainly deserve to go under."

August, 1914, gave him the chance he wanted. He could never have been really happy away from the Regiment he so dearly loved. One night, when he had left the Army and was voyaging home from India, he had gone to the poop of the ship and looked down into the sea. He was filled, at that moment, with the gravest misgivings in regard to the future. He knew that he was leaving behind him the associations of very many years, all he really cared about: his Regiment and his comrades. And, deep in despondency, he thought

Digitized by Google

that it would not matter very much if he threw himself into the sea.

It goes without saying that the man whose body now lies somewhere upon the Anafarta Hills, who was seen dead, upon that tragic night at Suvla, with a rifle in his hands upon which was fixed a blood-stained bayonet, with seven dead Turks stretched around him in a ring, would never have been guilty of such weakness. Indeed, he was no less a man, and all the more a soldier, for harbouring, for an instant, such a thought.

He died as he would have died. To be upright, honourable, and gallant, to be loyal and strong of purpose; there is little else that the best of us need strive to be. He was a good comrade and a fine soldier. And "he laid him down with a will."

Digitized by Google

XVII

MALTA IN 1899

THE 1st Battalion left the Curragh for Malta in September, 1898; but I did not join till the following April, so my reminiscences must begin with the spring of 1899. Malta has changed a good deal since those days. Of course, the little railway to Cittá Vecchia was in existence in our time, but there was no breakwater across the mouth of the Grand Harbour, no lift from the Customs House steps to the Baracca, and no trams. There were barracks for only one battalion out at Pembroke, for the St. Andrew's Barracks had not then been built. The Marsa has been greatly improved since we left the island. In our days there were no tennis-courts there, and no golf course. Golf was played in the ditches of the Horn Work, just outside the Florian Gate of Valetta, and the tennis-courts were in the Ditch about 150 yards from the S.W. corner of the Florian parade ground.

The Governor of Malta was Sir Francis Grenfell (now Lord Grenfell); and it was entirely owing to his firm attitude that Penny Postage with England was introduced on April 1st, 1899, three months after almost all the other Colonies (except Australia) had introduced it. Six battalions of British infantry were stationed in the island. Four were in or near Valletta—at St. Elmo, Florian, Manoel, and Verdala—and the two others were at Imtarfa and at Pembroke. The seventh battalion belonging to the Command was on detachment in Crete.

The Regiment was stationed in the Lower St. Elmo Barracks. St. Elmo Fort occupies the point between the two harbours at Valletta. From St. Elmo you look across to Fort Ricasoli, on the other side of the Grand Harbour, and to Fort Tigne on the far side of the entrance to the Quarantine Harbour. St. Elmo itself stands at the end of the Strada

Digitized by Google

Reale—the main street of Valletta, which runs down from the Porte Reale to the fort. There are two barracks in the fort—Upper St. Elmo Barracks, occupied by the gunners, and the Lower St. Elmo Barracks, which we filled. Though the Regiment spent over a year in St. Elmo, it is probable that very few officers or men were aware that Sir Ralph Abercromby, the victor of Aboukir, lies buried in the Abercromby Bastion of the fort.

Our barrack square was always known as "The Bear Pit," and it was about the hottest spot in the island. When you entered the fort, a long ramp led you down to the barrack square, which was about forty-five feet below the level of the gate, so that the barracks—three stories high—were below ground. The lowest floor was devoted to stores, institutes, cook-houses, etc.; while the two upper floors contained the barrack-rooms. Above and behind the Sergeants' Mess there was a broad ditch bounded by stone walls thirty feet high. It was here that we did our revolver shooting. When we fired the Annual Course, both the Colonel and a newly joined subaltern from the Emerald Isle managed to put a bullet clean over the wall—to the annoyance of the Gunners in Upper St. Elmo!

These barracks were only large enough for six companies. E Company was on detachment in Cyprus; D Company was in the island of Gozo till August, 1899. It was then brought back to Valletta, and put into the little barracks which stand at the head of the Marsamuscetto Steps—the starting-point of the steamers which run across the Quarantine Harbour to Sliema.

The Officers' Mess was the Auberge de Bavière, the old palace of the German Knights of Malta, which overlooked the entrance to the Quarantine Harbour. The building itself was a fine one, but the surroundings were decidedly squalid.

Col. Hume handed over the command of the Battalion on January 4th, 1899, to Lt.-Col. and Bt.-Col. H. L. Smith-Dorrien, D.S.O. The new C.O. had done all his regimental soldiering with the 2nd Battalion, and had never served for a single day with the 1st Battalion till he took command of it. Curiously enough, the same thing happened again in the Regiment a few months later, when Lt.-Col. Bulpett, who had always belonged to the 1st Battalion, succeeded to the command of the 2nd Battalion.

Digitized by Google

In jotting down reminiscences of our stay in Malta it is inevitable that they should consist very largely of anecdotes about officers of the Regiment. It is now more than sixteen years since we left the island for South Africa. I can honestly say that "I have set down nought in malice," and I hope that nothing here recorded will hurt the feelings of anybody.

A well-known Commanding Officer is said to have remarked not many years ago: "The Battalion consists of myself and nine hundred cyphers with names attached for purposes of identification." This is carrying matters to extremes with a vengeance; but certainly to write an account of our sojourn in Malta containing no anecdotes about Col. Smith-Dorrien would be rather like the famous attempt to produce "Hamlet" while omitting the part of "the Moody Dane."

Those who have only seen General Sir Horace Smith-Dorrien, G.C.B., might be surprised if they could have seen Colonel Smith-Dorrien in 1899. At that time he was only forty-one years old, and in his ways he was the most youthful C.O. that I have ever known. I have seen him do a "short arm balance" in the anteroom, and he used to enjoy getting up sing-songs in the mess after dinner. He used often to sing the Harrow songs, but—appropriately enough—his favourite song was "The Old Grey Mare." It is needless to say that in 1899 the Colonel had four or five good ponies in his stables, and he won the "Malta Cup" that year. He was always wonderfully kind in lending ponies to subalterns.

In the early summer the Colonel went off to Crete on ten days' leave. During his absence Colours were presented to the Royal Malta Militia. Two subalterns—Morley and I—were detailed to attend the ceremony, and we were sent off on a couple of the Colonel's ponies. We had only just got outside the Porte Reale when Morley's pony—a grey Arab—shied, slipped, and came down cutting his knees badly. When the Colonel came back a few days later, all he said was: "Well, Morley, it was very lucky that you were not hurt."

A few months later, when we were out at Mellieha for Battalion Training, the Colonel took out another subaltern and myself one afternoon on two of his spare ponies. Hitchcock went with us. We rode down to St. Paul's Bay. No sooner had we turned to go back than my pony took charge and galloped full split up the hill towards Selmun, followed

Digitized by Google

by Hitchcock's. We went the best part of a mile before we could pull up. When the Colonel appeared on the scene and I apologised to him, he replied, with a twinkle in his eye: "When I saw you two fellows going up that hill, I thought you must *both* be riding borrowed ponies."

The Orderly Room at St. Elmo was very small indeed. There was no officers' room at all, so we all had to huddle together round a table at one end of the little room which was occupied by the Colonel and the Adjutant. Those who were in Malta in 1899 will not have forgotten M*l*m, the Senior Chaplain in the island. In those days Army chaplains had a uniform, and M*l*m never failed to appear in his uniform on every possible occasion. He liked to pose as a member of the Church Militant, and was fond of declaring that he was the "Senior Colonel in the Garrison." One morning Sergt.-Major Gurney entered the Orderly Room and said: "Sir, *Colonel* M*l*m has sent back Jones, and he wants another Church orderly in his place." It was a bright, sunny day, but within a few minutes the atmosphere of the Orderly Room became positively blue! The Colonel was famous for his fine command of vigorous English, and on this occasion he fairly excelled himself!

It is impossible to recall old days in Malta without thinking of poor "X." One frequently meets men who occasionally make fools of themselves, but "X" had a positive genius not merely for doing the wrong thing, but also for saying it. It was well said of him that he never opened his mouth without putting his foot in it. He left the Regiment not many years later and is now dead, so he can no longer be worried by the cares of a soldier's life. During his brief military career he was a source of no little amusement to all ranks. He was a subaltern in B Company, and the following inscription appeared among the Christmas decorations at the Curragh:—

"God Bless Major Godley, and God Help Lieut. 'X.'"

On an Adjutant's parade in the spring of 1899 "X" gave the wrong order to his company. Casswell (the Adjutant) thereupon gave out "the detail," and repeated the movement. Again "X" went wrong, so Casswell cantered over and enquired, in somewhat sulphurous language, what he

Digitized by Google

meant. "X" saluted, and quietly replied: "Haw! It is very annoying, isn't it?" Casswell could only retire defeated. Words failed him.

We used often to have combined field days with the fleet, and on one of these occasions we were taken round to the Marsa Scirocco and there disembarked. Just before our arrival there the naval officers gave an order to "Loosen the slings"—referring, of course, to the slings of the boats. Poor "X" thought that the order referred to the rifle slings, and caused much amusement by going down the ranks of B Company, saying in a loud voice: "Haw! Loosen your slings, men; loosen your slings."

"X's" last exploit in Malta was one of his best. A few days before we embarked for South Africa we did some field firing on the Pembroke ranges. (I remember that it was a wonderfully clear morning, and Etna was plainly visible from Pembroke Camp. This was the only occasion on which I saw Etna during the eight months I spent in Malta.) We first did an "attack practice"; and then, when we had got to within about 200 yards of the targets, we fell back by alternate half-companies. "X" was sent back with half of B Company to take up a position in rear. A few minutes later the remainder of the company retired, followed by Major Godley, who was moving at the stately double suited to his exalted rank. He was still some little way in front of the covering position, when "X" gave the order to open fire. The effect was electrical, and the Major—his eye-glass firmly planted in his crimson face—covered the last twenty or thirty yards in almost record time. The men of B Company had no idea that their commander was such an athlete and such a powerful speaker!

Shortly before this an amusing incident occurred at a ball on the flagship. Dancing was in full swing. Suddenly there was a report like thunder, and Popham's overalls split right across the seat from side to side! The situation would probably have been embarrassing to an Englishman, but Popham backed gracefully out, as if from the presence of Royalty.

The year 1899 saw several innovations in Malta. Combined Naval and Military Manœuvres were held that April for the first time. The Battalion marched out to Mellieha and formed part of the attacking force under Col. Smith-Dorrien. We

Digitized by Google

made an attack on the south extremity of the Victoria Lines, and on the last day we fell back to the end of the island (opposite Comino) and embarked in the Fleet. The Regiment was taken back to Valletta on H.M.S. *Cæsar*, which was then the newest and most up-to-date battleship in the Mediterranean.

Malta is by no means a good place for the training of troops, but the neighbourhood of Mellieha is more suitable than most other parts of the island, so the authorities determined to utilise it, and we were the first regiment that went into camp there for Battalion Training.

The Battalion was still in the first year of " foreign service," so from 1899 there date several institutions and contrivances which are familiar to all who have served with " The Foresters" in recent years. First and foremost of these is the green band round the helmet. Col. Smith-Dorrien was fully convinced of the importance of being able to recognise your men quickly when mixed up with those of other units. He used to cite as an example the difficulties that occurred at Dargai when our men got mixed with the Dorsets, and the great advantage which the Gordons derived on that occasion from their distinctive dress. The Colonel had just come from the Omdurman campaign, and he had there seen the 5th Fusiliers wearing a red band round their helmets. Accordingly he lost no time in urging his views on the military authorities in Malta and asking for permission to adopt a green band. There was some slight delay, but the permission was then granted. It so happened that on the very day on which the order came into force there was a meeting of the Malta Naval and Military Society. When the meeting broke up, Sir Francis Grenfell began to chaff the Colonel about the green bands, and he asked him whether he was happy now. The Colonel replied that it was a capital thing to be able to recognise your men on all occasions. The first object that met their eyes as they left the building was a man with a green band round his helmet, staggering across the street hopelessly drunk about a hundred yards away. The General chuckled, and said: " Yes, Smith-Dorrien, I quite agree with you. There is no mistaking what regiment that man belongs to. Is there ? "

Another new contrivance introduced about the same time was the big company money chest, which always lies in the

Digitized by Google

guard-room. It was made by Sergt. Read, the pioneer-sergeant. Previously there was only an ordinary steel safe, into which all the bags were thrown together. I remember that there was considerable trouble when a certain officer, who is now a " Grave and Reverend Signior " and a Major of several years' standing, lost the key !

It was rather remarkable that in the eight months between November, 1898, and June, 1899, no less than eight subalterns —Wybergh, Rhodes, Frend, Gilson, myself, Manby, Popham, and Webb—joined the Battalion in Malta, and all of them except Gilson served at least fifteen years in the Regiment. Six of the eight were still in the Regiment when the war broke out in 1914, and Rhodes had only retired a few months before. Gilson left in consequence of the serious wounds which he received in South Africa, but those who have read *Scenes from a Subaltern's Life* will know that he has not forgotten the months he spent in Malta. At the Garrison Sports that summer we won the Officers' Tug-of-war. Our team consisted of Leveson-Gower, Casswell, Hitchcock, Wybergh, Rhodes, Frend, Gilson, myself, Manby, and Popham. Seven of the ten are still (May, 1916) in the Regiment.

From May onwards we all lived in a state of some excitement. War in South Africa seemed very probable, and Sir Francis Grenfell told the Colonel that he had recommended the Regiment for active service. Some time before the outbreak of war the Border Regiment left Malta for South Africa, but, to our great disappointment, the second battalion sent from the Command proved to be the Rifle Brigade from Crete.

At this time a certain officer belonging to the Regiment was A.D.C. to the G.O.C. at Woolwich. Thinking that he might get early information, the Colonel arranged with him to send a code wire—just the word " Nottingham "—if we were ordered to mobilise. The early days of October came along, and it was clear that the breaking-point had been very nearly reached, when to our joy the hoped-for telegram arrived. We were all immensely elated, and the Colonel felt confident that the next day would bring us the official orders for our impending move. The news spread like wildfire all over Valletta. Two days passed and nothing happened. The Colonel then wired to Woolwich, and three or four days later

Digitized by Google

he received the explanation: "By 'we' I meant we at Woolwich!" It was well that the correspondent was at a safe distance from the Colonel for some weeks after this, or the General Staff might have lost a valuable officer!

"It's an ill wind that blows nobody any good." We had just received the news of Nicholson's Nek. That evening the Colonel, who was dining in his own quarters, walked into the mess-room in the middle of dinner with a telegram containing our orders to proceed to South Africa. It was an occasion which those who were present will never forget. Someone must have run down to the barracks immediately, for within two or three minutes we heard tremendous cheering. The author of *Scenes from a Subaltern's Life* was on leave in England at the time, but he has vividly described the feelings of those who were present.

In one respect we were phenomenally lucky, for our 2nd Battalion was in Valletta shut up in Fort Manoel undergoing quarantine. Their arrival was quite accidental, and it occurred as follows: The Battalion had gone to India in 1882 at the close of the Egyptian campaign. It took part in the Tirah campaign of 1897–8, and in the following autumn it went to Aden, to serve a year there on the way home. The Battalion was under orders to leave Aden for England in October, 1899, but twenty-four hours before embarkation the orders were changed and it was directed to proceed to Gibraltar, to take the place of a battalion of the Guards which had been sent to South Africa. Certain details were embarked at Port Said, and owing to the existence of plague at that port it was necessary for the ship to be placed in quarantine. There were absolutely no facilities for this at Gibraltar, so the Regiment was ordered to proceed to Málta, do its quarantine there, and then go on to Gibraltar. Thus it came about that one day towards the end of October the troopship, with the 2nd Battalion on board, steamed into the Quarantine Harbour, while the officers and men of the 1st Battalion stood on the ramparts and cheered as they passed. The 2nd Battalion was landed and put into Fort Manoel. A few days later we were ordered to South Africa, as I have already narrated, and the 2nd Battalion was ordered to remain in Malta and take our place. Of course, from our point of view, this was an ideal arrangement. We were able to hand over to them our

Digitized by Google

unfit men and all those who had less than a year's service or who were not twenty years of age, and to replace them with trained men.

The quarantine came to an end one Sunday afternoon, and the men of the 2nd Battalion were free at last. When it is remembered that it was seventeen years since this Battalion had been in a station where there were any public-houses, it says much for the self-control of the men that none of them fell into the harbour when returning to Fort Manoel that night.

The ten days which the two Battalions of the Regiment spent together were celebrated in the most enthusiastic manner by all ranks. Needless to say, innumerable groups were taken, and the two Battalions were photographed together on the Florian parade ground. Two new subalterns—Luther and Gibson—came out to join us after we had got our orders for South Africa; but the Colonel got permission to transfer them to the 2nd Battalion and to take out two other officers —Keller and Watson—in their places.

It has been well said that "Hope springs eternal in the human breast," and there was great joy in the Officers' Mess at Fort Manoel when it was known that Murray was in bed with jaundice. A party of subalterns hurried over, armed with clinical thermometers and hoping for the worst; but Murray disappointed them by a rapid recovery.

At last the great morning arrived, and the *Dunera* steamed into the Grand Harbour with 9 officers and about 300 of our reservists on board. A few hours later we left Malta. The Fleet gave us a magnificent "send-off." The ships in harbour "manned ship" and cheered us as we got under weigh. The *Empress of India* was in dock, but the crew manned their boats, advanced in perfect line down Bighi Bay, tossed their oars, and cheered. The Governor escorted us to the mouth of the harbour in his yacht. It was indeed a memorable sight.

W. H. WILKIN.

(*This account was written in May*, 1916.)

Digitized by Google

XVIII

PRISONERS AND CAPTIVES

THE following letter reached Brig.-Gen. Roy when he was employed at the War Office, and first he and later General Sir Horace Smith-Dorrien did what they could to obtain some recognition of the splendid self-sacrificing services of Lce.-Corpl. Clark of our Regiment, but it was decided that too much time had elapsed since the events narrated by Pte. Hildren occurred, and further that there was not sufficient corroboration of the story. The Colonel of the Regiment has personally written to Lce.-Corpl. Clark expressing his admiration of his care of those who with him were prisoners and captives; but it is thought that by publishing Pte. Hildren's letter in the Annual, all battalions and all ranks may have an opportunity of learning of the devotion which this young non-commissioned officer of "Ours" evinced under most difficult and trying conditions.

DEAR SIR, 6/1/20.

With pleasure I recommend the (late) No. 9489 Lce.-Corpl. A. W. Clark of the 2nd Battalion Sherwood Foresters for his devotion and kindness to his comrades whilst in captivity along with us. Our first working camp was Vintermoor, where we used to get a certain amount of work (which we called tasks) we had to complete before we could return to camp, but the worst of it was that these so-called "tasks" were getting larger every day; well they got that large that our Corporal in charge (the above named) went to the German Under Officer and told him that it was too much for his men to do and that he would not allow his men to do it. So we downed our tools and refused to work. We were all put under arrest and our Corporal was bound with rope to a post for four hours, and the Under Officer spit right into his face. We were under arrest for three days, but still we had to do our task and on one meal per day. On October 14th, 1915,

Digitized by Google

Lce.-Corpl. A. W. Clark and his men were sent to another camp to work in the coal mines, and again we refused to work, but this time they knocked us about with the butt end of their rifles that much that we had to give in, but still we received a lot of punishment through not knowing their language. Our Lce.-Corpl. set his mind on learning the German language which he soon learnt, and it soon improved the treatment in our camp. He got to be our interpreter and he also issued our parcels out to us, which was a benefit to us. He was very clever in censoring our parcels in front of the Germans' eyes and deceiving them at the same time. We got many a newspaper, such as the *Umpire*, etc., in which we were pleased to read the Home news of the War, which enlightened our hearts a great deal.

On the 28th February, 1918, we had the misfortune of losing two of our comrades in an explosion in the mine along with twenty-four others. I was in the mine when it occurred which I shall never forget. Our Lce.-Corpl. made all arrangements in regard to the burial which was well respected by the General of our Command, and the officials of the mine and their comrades and laid to rest by the German Minister.

Shortly after this our Lance-Corporal took ill and had to go to hospital: two days after our camp was stricken down with influenza. When the Lance-Corporal heard this he came out of hospital after receiving just four days' treatment. He persevered and treated his sick comrades who all soon got better again.

Dear Sir, seeing that there was no one else in my seniority that could recommend him, and as I was taken prisoner at the same time, the 20th October, 1914, and was with him till we left Germany for England and landed at Hull on the 7th of December, 1918.

I remain His Old Friend in Captivity,

(Late) No. 8610 Pte. GEORGE HILDREN,

2nd Battalion Durham Light Infantry,
No. 57 Second Street,
Horden, near Sunderland.

ADDRESS.

(Late) No. 9489 Lce.-Corpl. A. W. CLARK,
2nd Battalion Sherwood Foresters,
No. 5 Cheltenham Terrace, Arkwright Street,
Nottingham.

Digitized by Google

XIX

COLONELS OF THE 45th

BY MAJOR W. H. WILKIN

THE following notes are supplementary to those which appeared in the *Annual* for 1914:—

(6) Sir John Wrottesley, Bart.

He died in April 1787.

(7) James Cunningham

He died in September 1788.

(8) James Adean

Lieut.-General	.. ..	..	3/ 5/1796
General	.. .. ..	..	1/ 1/1801

He died in April 1802.

(9) Frederick Cavendish Lister

He died in February 1823.

(11) Sir William Henry Pringle, G.C.B.

Colonel	.. .. .. R.N.F.I.	..	12/ 5/1814
,,	.. .. .. 64th Foot	..	1/ 4/1816

Inspecting Field Officer of Canadian Militia in 1810.

He died in London, December 23rd, 1840.

(12) Sir Fitzroy Jeffries Grafton Maclean, Bart.

Colonel	.. .. .. 84th Foot	..	28/ 7/1823

He died in London, July 4th, 1847.

Digitized by Google

(13) Sir Colin Halkett, G.C.B., G.C.H.

K.C.B.	..	2/ 1/1815
G.C.B.	..	4/ 1/1848
Lieut.-Governor of Jersey	..	23/ 7/1821
Governor of Chelsea Hospital	..	26/11/1849

(14) Thomas Brabazon Aylmer

Reward for Distinguished Service	..	1/ 7/1851

He died at Worthing, July 19th, 1858.

(16) Thomas Armstrong Drought

Lieut.-General	..	21/ 4/1868
General	..	29/ 5/1875
Reward for Distinguished Service	..	5/ 9/1857
Colonel .. .. .. 15th Foot	..	21/ 4/1868

He died on August 22nd, 1877.

(17) Sir Frederick Horn, K.C.B.

General	..	2/ 6/1877
Colonel .. .. .. 20th Foot	..	17/ 3/1876
Reward for Distinguished Service	..	13/ 5/1855
Local Major-General in Turkey	..	5/10/1855

He died at Rugby, January 26th, 1894.

(18) Henry Cooper

He died August 24th, 1878.

(19) Sir Daniel Lysons, G.C.B.

He died in London, January 29th, 1898.

Digitized by Google

XX

COLONELS OF THE 95TH

(1) SIR COLIN HALKETT, G.C.B., G.C.H.

(*See under* "Colonels of the 45th," in *Annual* for 1914)

(2) SIR ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL, BART., G.C.B.

Ensign	77th Foot ..	28/12/1787
Lieutenant	„ ..	26/ 4/1791
Adjutant	„ ..	3/ 6/1791
Captain	67th Foot ..	17/ 5/1799
„	88th Foot ..	24/ 5/1799
Major	6th G.Bn. ..	14/ 9/1804
„	71st Foot ..	18/ 4/1805
Lieut.-Colonel	..	16/ 2/1809
„ (h.p.)	..	26/12/1816
„	38th Foot ..	9/ 8/1821
Colonel	..	4/ 6/1814
Major-General	..	27/ 5/1825
Lieut.-General	..	28/ 6/1838
Colonel	95th Foot ..	21/ 9/1829
„	77th Foot ..	23/12/1834
„	62nd Foot ..	17/2/1840
A.D.C. to Prince Regent ..	..	4/6/1814
G.C.B.	..	26/12/1826

He was a Commander of the Portuguese Order of the Tower and Sword. He commanded a Portuguese brigade, and received the Gold Cross and one clasp for Albuhera, Vittoria, Pyrenees, Nivelle, and Nive.

He died at Edinburgh on October 6th, 1843.

Digitized by Google

(3) Sir Charles Pratt

Ensign	5th Foot	..	14/ 4/1794
Lieutenant	,,	..	3/ 9/1795
Captain	,,	..	28/ 2/1798
Major	,,	..	25/ 8/1804
Lieut.-Colonel	,,	..	25/ 3/1808
Colonel		..	4/ 6/1814
Major-General		..	27/ 5/1825
Lieut.-General		..	28/ 6/1838
Colonel	95th Foot	..	23/12/1834

He received the Gold Cross and one clasp for Salamanca, Vittoria, Nivelle, Orthes, and Toulouse.

He died at Brighton on October 25th, 1838.

(4) Sir John Buchan, K.C.B.

Ensign ..	Scotch Brigade (94th)	..	29/ 7/1795
Lieutenant ..	,, ,,	..	21/10/1795
Captain ..	Ramsay's Regt.	..	15/ 3/1802
Major ..	,,	..	30/ 6/1804
Lieut.-Colonel		..	30/3 /1809
Colonel		..	12/ 8/1819
Major-General		..	22/ 7/1830
Lieut.-General		..	23/11/1841
Colonel	95th Foot	..	5/11/1838
,, ...	32nd Foot	..	12/ 6/1843
K.C.B.		..	13/ 9/1831

He served in the Mysore War, and took part in the Battle of Mallavelly and the assault on Seringapatam—medal. He took part in the operations against the Southern Poligars in 1800, and in the Kandian War in Ceylon in 1803. In 1810 he was present at the capture of Guadeloupe. He served with the Portuguese Army from 1811 till 1814. He was made a Commander of the Portuguese Order of the Tower and Sword. He also received the Gold Cross and one clasp for Guadeloupe, Vittoria, Pyrenees, Nivelle, and Nive, and the silver medal with clasps for Orthes and Toulouse.

He died in London on June 2nd, 1850.

Digitized by Google

(5) George Guy Carleton L'Estrange, C.B.

Ensign	6th Foot ..	1/ 4/1798
Lieutenant	„ ..	24/11/1798
Captain	60th Foot ..	13/ 3/1802
„	73rd Foot ..	26/ 5/1803
Major	98th Foot ..	22/ 5/1804
„	31st Foot ..	21/ 4/1808
Bt. Lieut.-Colonel	..	30/ 5/1811
Lieut.-Colonel	26th Foot ..	10/12/1812
„	31st Foot ..	8/ 6/1815
Colonel	..	19/ 7/1821
(h.p.)	..	8/ 5/1823
Major-General	..	22/ 7/1830
Lieut.-General	..	23/11/1841
Colonel	95th Foot ..	12/ 6/1843
„	61st Foot ..	29/ 3/1848
C.B.	..	4/ 6/1815
D.A.G., Isle of France ..	..	25/ 7/1822

He served in the Peninsula, and received the Gold Medal for Albuhera.

He died at Mid Rock, Yorkshire, on August 21st, 1848.

(6) Sir Richard Armstrong, K.C.B.

Ensign	24th Foot ..	23/ 6/1796
Lieutenant	5th Foot ..	5/11/1799
Captain	9th Bn. of R. ..	9/ 7/1803
„	9th R.V.Bn. ..	10/ 4/1805
„	97th Foot ..	7/ 7/1808
Major	..	30/ 5/1811
Lieut.-Colonel	..	26/ 8/1813
Colonel	..	22/ 7/1830
Major-General	..	23/11/1841
Lieut.-General	..	11/11/1851
Colonel	95th Foot ..	29/ 3/1848
„	32nd Foot ..	25/ 6/1850
C.B.	..	4/ 6/1815
K.C.B.	..	7/ 4/1852
Local Lieut.-General, East Indies	..	25/ 6/1850

Digitized by Google

He served with the Portuguese Army, and was a Knight of the Order of the Tower and Sword. He was in the Peninsula from August 1808 till the end of the war. He took part in the Passage of the Douro, Busaco, the actions at Pombal, and Redinha, the defence of Alba de Tormes, Vittoria, Pyrenees (severely wounded) and Toulouse. He received a Gold medal with two clasps for Busaco, Vittoria, and the Pyrenees; the silver medal with clasp for Toulouse. He served as a Brigadier in the Burma war of 1825–6, including the operations at Prome in December 1825.

He died on the passage home from India on March 3rd, 1854.

(7) Sir John Bell, G.C.B.

Ensign	52nd Foot ..	15/ 8/1805
Lieutenant	,, ..	1/10/1807
Captain	4th Foot ..	12/ 3/1812
Major	..	21/ 6/1813
Lieut.-Colonel	..	12/ 4/1814
Colonel	..	6/ 5/1831
Major-General	..	23/11/1841
Lieut.-General	..	11/11/1851
General	..	15/ 6/1860
Colonel	95th Foot ..	25/ 6/1850
,, ...	4th Foot ..	26/12/1853
C.B.	..	4/ 6/1815
K.C.B.	..	18/ 6/1852
G.C.B.	..	18/ 5/1860

He served in Sicily 1806–7. He served in the Peninsular war from 1808–14. He was present at Vimiera, Busaco, Ciudad Rodrigo, Badajoz, Salamanca, Vittoria, Pyrenees, Nivelle, Orthes, and Toulouse. He received the Gold Cross for Pyrenees, Nivelle, Orthes, and Toulouse; and a silver medal with six clasps for the other actions.

He served against the Americans in Louisiana in 1814–5.

At the time of his death he was with the single exception of Field Marshal Sir John Foster Fitzgerald, the last surviving possessor of a Gold Cross for the Peninsular war.

He died November 20th, 1876, in Cadogan Place, London.

Digitized by Google

(8) Sir Francis Cockburn

Cornet	..	7th D.G.	.. 16/10/1800
Lieutenant	..	60th Foot	.. 6/ 4/1803
Captain	..	94th Foot	.. 3/ 3/1804
,,	..	3rd Dragoons	.. 14/11/1804
,,	..	60th Foot	.. 23/ 4/1807
Major	..	Can. Fenc. Infantry	.. 27/ 6/1811
Lieut.-Colonel	..	New Brunswick Fenc.	.. 27/10/1814
h.p.	..		.. 25/ 4/1816
Colonel	..		.. 10/ 1/1837
Major-General	..		.. 9/11/1846
Lieut.-General	..		.. 20/ 6/1854
General	..		.. 12/11/1860
Colonel	..	95th Foot	.. 26/12/1853
Lieut.-Colonel	..	2nd W.I.R.	.. 30/ 7/1829
D.Q.M.G. Canada	..		.. 25/12/1817

He served in South America in 1807, in the Peninsula 1809–10, and in Canada 1811–4. He had a "P" against his name in the Army List, but received no medal for the Peninsula War.

He died on August 24th, 1868.

(9) John ffolliott Crofton

Ensign	..	6th Foot	.. 18/12/1824
Lieutenant	..	,,	.. 29/ 8/1828
Captain	..	,,	.. 17/ 7/1835
Major	..	,,	.. 15/ 4/1842
Lieut.-Colonel	..	,,	.. 7/ 8/1846
h.p.	..		.. 21/ 7/1848
Colonel	..		.. 20/ 6/1854
Major-General	..		.. 9/ 3/1861
Lieut.-General	..		.. 21/ 8/1870
General	..		.. 23/ 8/1877
Retired	..		.. 1/10/1877
Colonel	..	95th Foot	.. 25/ 8/1868
,,	..	6th Foot	.. 5/ 9/1869

Born October 9th, 1802, died July 17th, 1885.

Served in N.W. of India Desert, 1832—operations in Parkur, taking of Balmeer. He took part in the Defence of Aden against the Arabs in 1840–1. He was in command of the Red River Expedition of 1846.

Digitized by Google

(10) FREDERICK HOLT ROBE, C.B.

Ensign	R. Staff Corps		22/10/1817
h.p.			25/10/1818
Ensign	R. Staff Corps		11/ 3/1819
Lieutenant	„		8/ 4/1825
„		84th Foot	22/11/1827
Captain		87th Foot	22/10/1833
Bt. Major			31/12/1841
Major		87th Foot	31/ 7/1846
Bt. Lieut.-Colonel			28/ 5/1847
Lieut.-Colonel			2/ 8/1853
h.p.			2/ 8/1853
Colonel			28/11/1854
Major-General			14/ 3/1862
Colonel		95th Foot	5/ 9/1869
C.B.			1/ 5/1848
Local Major			17/11/1840
D.Q.M.G. Mauritius			28/ 5/1847

He served with the Anglo-Turkish forces in the Syrian Campaign of 1840–1, including the advance on Gaza and the affair before Ascalon—Medal and Turkish Medal.

He received the C.B. (civil) for his services as Lieutenant-Governor of S. Australia between 1845–8.

He died April 4th, 1871.

(11) JAMES PATTOUN SPARKS, C.B.

Ensign	R. African Corps		27/ 7/1815
Lieutenant	„	„	30/ 7/1818
„		38th Foot	12/ 4/1821
Captain		„	5/ 9/1826
Bt.-Major			23/11/1841
Bt.-Lieut.-Colonel			11/11/1851
Major		38th Foot	6/ 7/1852
Lieut.-Colonel		„	9/ 3/1855
Colonel			28/11/1854
Major-General			26/ 9/1865
Lieut.-General			7/ 2/1874
Colonel		95th Foot	5/ 4/1871
C.B.			2/ 1/1857

Digitized by Google

He served in the Kaffir War of 1817–19, including the action at Graham's Town on April 22nd, 1819. He commanded the Graham's Town Volunteers in the Kaffir War of 1834 (medal). In 1848 he was sent from Jamaica to the Mosquito Coast to look after British interests, and he received the thanks of the Government. He served in the Crimean War, 1854–5, and was present at the Battles of the Alma and Inkerman and the Siege of Sevastopol. After the assault of June 18th, 1855, he was the senior unwounded officer of the 2nd Brigade, 3rd Division, and commanded the Brigade for ten days. (Medal with three clasps, Officer Legion of Honour, 4th class Medjidieh, Sardinian and Turkish Medals.) He served in the Indian Mutiny, including the capture of Lucknow in 1858. He commanded the Infantry Brigade in the action of Meeangunge (Medal and clasp).

He died in Glamorganshire September 7th, 1881.

(12) JOHN STUDHOLME BROWNRIGG, C.B.

Ensign	9th Foot ..	20/ 7/1832
Lieutenant	,, ..	9/ 5/1835
Captain	2 W.I.R. ..	29/12/1840
Lieut. & Capt.	Grenadier Guards ..	27/ 5/1842
Bt.-Major	..	11/11/1851
Capt. & Lieut.-Col.	Grenadier Guards ..	13/ 9/1853
Colonel	..	28/11/1854
Major-General	..	6/ 3/1868
Lieutenant-General ..	..	2/ 2/1876
General	..	20/ 3/1878
Retired	..	1/ 7/1881
Colonel	95th Foot ..	24/ 6/1876
Adjutant	9th Foot	9/5/1835–28/12/1840

Born September 22nd, 1814. Died April 1st, 1889.

He served in the Crimea 1854–5, as A.A.G. at battles of Alma, Inkerman, and Tchernaya; and siege of Sevastopol, including attack on Redan of June 18th, and final assault. As Chief of Staff in expedition to Kertch. Despatch London Gazette 2nd December, 1854, and 5th October, 1855. Brevet of Colonel, C.B., Medal with three clasps, 3rd class Legion of Honour, 4th class Medjidieh, Turkish Medal.

Digitized by Google

XXI

SKETCHES OF THE 45TH REGIMENT

THE Regiment should feel indebted to that clever young military artist, Gerald C. Hudson, for his work in reproducing a charming series of twelve pictures representing incidents in the history of the 45th Regiment and clearly depicting the evolution of uniform. Such sets of pictures are usually somewhat stereotyped. Mr. Hudson has known how to avoid the tailor's-dummy appearance which is characteristic of many such series. By the courtesy of the publishers (Messrs. Forster Groom and Co. of 15 Charing Cross) the original pictures were shown at the Annual Regimental Dinner at the Langham Hotel on 3rd June, and doubtless several orders will be booked by past and present members of the Foresters' Mess. It is to be hoped, however, that for the sake of the rank and file, arrangements may be made to reproduce the series in post card form for sale in the canteen or for the O.C.A. In any case Mr. Hudson is to be congratulated on the artistic effect and the correct detail which places this series of original drawings in a class apart from anything we have seen.

Digitized by Google

XXII

THE LATE SERGEANT COGAN, 95TH

ON the 8th March, 1918, Lt.-Col. J. C. Parsons, of 163 North Street, Brighton, addressed a letter to the officer in Charge of Records forwarding a cutting from a recent issue of the *Brighton Herald* recording the funeral of the late Sergeant Cogan, formerly of the 95th Regiment, a portrait of whom appears in our Annual. Mr. Cogan was in business as a master-builder and decorator for many years and was greatly respected by all who knew him.

" One of the scanty survivors of the men who fought in the Crimean War was laid to rest on Wednesday in ex-Sergeant-Instructor J. Cogan. He had reached the advanced age of eighty-eight years. It was in the battle of Inkerman, in 1854, that Mr. Cogan, for his bravery on the field, was promoted Sergeant. He was then in the Sherwood Foresters, the 95th Regiment. He held the Medal with clasps for Sebastopol, Inkerman, and Alma, and the Turkish Medal. He joined the 1st Sussex Rifle Volunteers, and long acted as Sergeant-Instructor. During the time of his service he was held in the highest esteem as a worthy, conscientious man. He gained the Volunteer Long Service Medal. He was also an instructor to the Church Lads' Brigade. His son, Alfred Cogan, goal-keeper to the old Helmston Football Club, was killed in France in November, 1917, while attached to a Canadian A.M.C. unit, and this, together with the death of his eldest daughter, Mrs. A. R. Short, of Hove, on February 17th last, no doubt considerably hastened the old soldier's end. He was a member of the Veterans' Association.

The funeral service took place at the Brighton Parish Church with some military honour. His aged widow shrank from a full military funeral. The coffin was covered with the Union Jack, and among those who attended to do the old

Digitized by Google

soldier honour were Lt.-Col. F. C. Parsons, V.D., of the old-time 1st Sussex Rifles, ex-Cr.-Sergt. A. E. Smith, ex-Staff-Sergt. W. Swaysland, ex-Cr.-Sergt. Ingledew, and other non-commissioned officers of the regiment. The present 1st Sussex Volunteers were represented by Captain Shapland and Captain Haynes. Members of the Brighton branch of the Veterans' Association attended, wearing their war medals, one for the Crimea, others for the Indian Mutiny, Afghanistan, and other campaigns. There also attended a detachment of N.C.O.'s from the London Rifle Brigade at Shoreham Camp, commanded by Col. King, V.D.

The service at the church was conducted by the Dean of Chichester, and at the graveside by the Rev. G. Bond. The mourners included :

The widow, Mrs. Winchester, Mrs. Horscroft, Mrs. Yeates, Mrs. Buckland, and Mrs. Whitney (daughters), Mr. A. R. Short, and Mr. J. Yeates (sons-in-law).

Among the many wreaths were the following :

To my dear husband, from his heart-broken wife (At Rest) ; his sorrowing sons and daughters at Brighton ; from Effie, Albert, Sis, and Gwen ; Nellie, Connie, and little Alfie ; from Arthur and Frances (Hove) ; to our dear grandfather from his grandchildren.

Col. C. Somers Clarks, V.D., and the officers of the late 1st Volunteer Battalion Royal Sussex Regiment ; Members of the Sergeants' Mess, late 1st V.B. Royal Sussex Regiment ; To the memory of a gallant soldier, from Major Macdonald Hall ; Lt.-Col. F. Cecil Parsons, H. Basley, and W. Garner.

Polly ; H. Talmey and family ; May and Ernie ; C. Parr and family ; Mr. and Mrs. Knight."

Digitized by Google

THE LATE SERGEANT COGAN, 95TH REGIMENT

Facing page 108

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

XXIII

OBITUARY

WE have to record the death of Lt.-Col. Robert Henry Dillon, late 1st Battalion Sherwood Foresters, which took place at his residence 7 Western Terrace, Folkestone, on December 28th. The deceased officer, who had resided in Folkestone for nearly twenty years, was the son of the late Major T. Dillon and was related to the last Earl of Roscommon.

After twenty-six years' service in the Army, of which several years were spent in India, he travelled extensively on the Continent, and paid several visits to France and Belgium in recent years.

He married, in 1881, Mary Constance, daughter of the late T. F. Saunders, Esq., of Green Hill Lodge, Harrow, and had one daughter who married, in 1915, Lt.-Col. R. G. Cherry, M.C., Royal Air Force.

The funeral took place at Folkestone on January 1st, 1919.

Digitized by Google

XXIV

OLD COMRADES' ASSOCIATION

To all Members of the Old Comrades' Association,

IT was a very great disappointment to me that, in this the first year after the war, I was unable to be present at the Old Comrades' Association dinner at Derby. I had looked forward with the greatest pride to taking my place as Colonel of the Regiment—all Battalions of which have performed such gloriously heroic deeds *pro patria.*

On almost every front has the name Sherwood Forester become synonymous with bravery and fighting efficiency—in France, Belgium, Italy, Egypt, Gallipoli, and (the Derbyshire Yeomanry) in Salonica and Bulgaria. Marshal Foch's words to the 1st Battalion, quoted on their Xmas cards, might be applied to all: "Men of the Sherwood Foresters, France and humanity owe you a debt that can never be paid. You have been called upon to attempt almost impossible tasks, but you have always succeeded." How proud the Old Comrades must have been who were fortunate enough to attend that dinner. Never again shall I have such an opportunity of congratulating and thanking those of the Corps who took part in the war, and that is largely why I am writing these few lines for the Report of the Association for the year.

There is, of course, the other side to the picture—namely, the enormous toll paid by the Sherwood Foresters in gaining their undying fame, with all the accompanying sorrow to those left behind. It is impossible to attempt to refer to them by name; but there is one whose loss to the Association is almost irreparable, for he devoted himself heart and soul to the welfare of his Old Comrades. There will be few who read these lines who will have any doubt as to whom I am referring, for the gallant Ewin was beloved by all who had the privilege of knowing him.

Digitized by Google

Another reason why this year's gathering will never be forgotten is that it was there that a very momentous step was taken, namely, opening the Association for membership to all who had ever served in any unit of Sherwood Foresters. I must candidly admit that I have doubts as to the wisdom of this. Not because I do not consider that every Sherwood Forester should belong, but because I realise that funds are limited, and that with small numbers it was fairly easy to safeguard the comforts of all, and to do so with a few willing workers; whereas, with large numbers it becomes a much more serious problem, and doubts arise in my mind as to whether we can obtain a sufficiently good organisation from voluntary workers to ensure that some of the old professional soldiers will not suffer. I do not cavil at the decision, nor should I had I been present, for it was a great tribute to the love for the old Corps and to the popularity of the Old Comrades' Association that such a proposal was passed without a dissenting voice. It only remains for us all to do our utmost to carry it out. Though I am afraid that my enforced absence from England as Governor of Gibraltar may prevent my taking a very active part for the next few years.

I do indeed desire to see the Association grow in prosperity; but increased membership means larger funds, entailing heavier responsibilities, and I cannot help thinking that to ensure an economical use of them and continuity of the same we should be wise to put our funds in the hands of recognised officials such as the Army Trustee.

I look forward to a greater gathering than ever next year and sincerely hope that nothing may prevent my being present.

H. L. SMITH-DORRIEN.

GIBRALTAR, 16th *December*, 1919.

Digitized by Google

THE SHERWOOD FORESTERS OLD COMRADES' ASSOCIATION

PATRONS

His Grace the Duke of Devonshire, K.G., G.C.M.G., G.C.V.O.
His Grace the Duke of Portland, K.G., G.C.V.O.

PRESIDENT

General Sir Horace L. Smith-Dorrien, G.C.B., G.C.M.G., D.S.O. (Colonel of the Regiment).

VICE-PRESIDENTS

Officer Commdg. 1st Batt. Officer Commdg. 2nd Batt.
Officer Commdg. 3rd Batt. Officer Commdg. 4th Batt.
Colonel H. C. Wylly, C.B.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Chairman—Officer Commanding the Depot.

Members

R.S.M. Wilson, Depot. R.S.M. Martin, M.C., D.C.M., 1st Batt.
Mr. Spencer, Chesterfield. Mr. Gunn, Nottingham.
Mr. Reed, Burton-on-Trent.

DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVES

Alfreton and District—Mr. W. Bower, 18, Hammersmith, Ripley.

Birmingham and District—Mr. W. West, 44, Hagley Road, Birmingham.

Bulwell and District—Mr. J. Harvey, 101, Quarneley Road, Mapperley.

Chesterfield and District—Mr. J. Spencer, 64, Hasland Road, Chesterfield.

Ilkeston and District—Mr. F. Portington, 55, Millfield Road, Ilkeston.

Long Eaton and District—A. E. Milner, 41, Union Street, Long Eaton.

Mansfield and District—W. H. Plowright, 34, Southwell Road, Rainworth, Mansfield.

Digitized by Google

Newark and District—H. Wheeler, 48, Bowbridge Road, Newark.
Retford and District—Mr. W. Offard, Drill Hall, Retford.
Sutton-in-Ashfield—Mr. W. Sims, 18, Sherwood Road, Sutton-in-Ashfield.
Burton-on-Trent—Mr. E. C. Cope, The Barley Mill, Stapenhill.
Derby and District—Mr. C. H. Cobb, 24, St. Thomas' Road, Derby.

BENEVOLENT COMMITTEE

Chairman—Major M. McGuire, O.B.E.

Members

Sergt.-Major Wilson. Mr. A. R. Gunn.
Mr. B. Skerritt. Mr. Pollard.
Mr. T. Tyers.
N.C.O. 1st Battalion, stationed at Depot.

SECRETARY AND TREASURER

Mr. J. H. Glover, Normanton Barracks, Derby.

TRUSTEES

Lieut.-General the Right Hon. Sir F. C. Shaw, K.C.B.
Lieut.-Colonel C. Didham.

BANKERS

Union and Provincial Bank of England, Derby.

AUDITORS

The Adjutant, Depot.
Mr. A. Hallam, Cottage Homes, Mickleover.

BYE-LAWS

TITLE

1. The Association to be called the "OLD COMRADES' ASSOCIATION."

OBJECT

2. To foster the *esprit de corps* of the Regiment, to bring Old Comrades together, to give the younger generation an opportunity of meeting those who in their time have done good service, to help one another, and to hold an Annual

Digitized by Google

Dinner at Nottingham and Derby alternately, and also to form and control a Benevolent Fund.

MEMBERSHIP

3. The Association shall be composed of those who are serving or who have served in the 45th or 95th Foot, or in any Regular Service, or Territorial Battalion of the Sherwood Foresters (Notts and Derbyshire Regiment), and the following will be eligible for membership: Officers, Warrant Officers, and Non-Commissioned Officers and Men serving, those who have completed the period of service for which they enlisted, or have been invalided on account of wounds received in action, or of disease contracted on Active Service, and all members of the Active Service sections of the Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire Volunteers who served with the 1st Battalion in South Africa.

Amended by Annual General Meeting, 25/10/19.

The Executive Committee are empowered to strike off the name of any member from the roll of members whose conduct is unbecoming and would bring discredit on the Association.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

4. The annual subscriptions shall be paid in advance on the 1st of January each year, and shall be as follows:—

Individual Members ..	1s. each.
Line Battalions	£10 each from Regimental Institutions.
„ „	£5 each from Sergeants' Messes.
Depot	£3 each from Regimental Institutions.
„	£2 10s. from Sergeants' Mess.

The above subscriptions from Line Battalions and Depot shall entitle all serving members of the above units (including all members of the Permanent Staff of Special Reserve who pay monthly subscriptions to the Depot Sergeants' Mess) to membership of the Association for the year of such subscriptions.

Officers, Warrant Officers, N.C.O.'s and Men who are not covered by the above, such as Permanent Staffs of Special

Digitized by Google

Reserve and Territorial Force, etc., who are not serving at the Depot, shall pay individual subscriptions.

Members, including those serving, may pay any number of years' subscriptions at any time, and by paying the sum of £1 shall become life members of the Association.

Funds

General Fund

5. The "Old Comrades' Association Fund," into which shall be paid all subscriptions to the Association.

This Fund will be vested in the Executive Committee, with full powers to apply the same as they think fit in defraying such expenses as may be incurred in the management and in the Dinner.

Benevolent Fund

The "Old Comrades' Association" Benevolent Fund, into which shall be paid :—

(*a*) Subscriptions to the Association received over the amounts mentioned in Rule 4.

(*b*) Any grants voted by the General Meeting from the General Fund.

(*c*) Interest on sums invested on behalf of the Benevolent Fund.

(*d*) Any donations which may be given from time to time to the Benevolent Fund.

Investment

6. Whenever a considerable sum of money is to the credit of the Benevolent Fund, the Executive Committee may decide that it be invested in the names of the Trustees.

Financial Year

7. The financial year shall be from 1st January to 31st December.

Meetings

8. A General Meeting of the Members of the Association shall be convened once a year, on the day of the Dinner, at such time and place as the Executive Committee shall decide. Each member shall be notified of the fact at least one month before the Dinner takes place.

Digitized by Google

Books

9. The Books of the Association shall be laid before the General Meeting for inspection.

Headquarters

10. The headquarters of the Association shall be at Normanton Barracks, Derby.

Executive

11. The Executive Committee shall assemble twice yearly, one of such meetings to be on the day of the Annual Dinner.

The Executive Committee shall have power to invite three distinguished old soldiers of the Regiment, who would otherwise be unable to attend through adverse circumstances, all other subscribers and members attending the Dinner to pay for the same.

Benevolent

The meetings of the Sub-Committee shall be at the discretion of the Chairman of the Sub-Committee, as occasion arises.

Members of all Committees to retire annually, but to be eligible for re-election.

Quorum

Three of a Committee to form a quorum.

Management

Duties of Management Committee

12. The Executive Committee will manage and control the business of the Association, and will delegate to the Sub-Committee power to deal with all cases of relief or assistance, to a limit of £3 in any particular case. More than £3 will not be given without reference to the Executive Committee.

The Sub-Committee will render accounts quarterly to the Executive Committee.

The Executive Committee will keep the Sub-Committee supplied with funds for the above purpose by grants limited to £10 at a time, except in special cases, when the Executive Committee has agreed to larger amounts.

Digitized by Google

If funds run low, the Executive Committee should further limit the spending powers of the Sub-Committee.

Vacancies in the Executive or Sub-Committee shall be filled by nomination at the Annual General Meeting; but the Committee are empowered to fill vacancies or add to their numbers temporarily, pending approval by the next General Meeting.

Annual Report

13. An Annual Report to be furnished to each individual subscriber, and to the Officers' and Sergeants' Messes and Reading Rooms of the Line Battalions and Depot.

Amendments

14. Any member wishing to propose any additional law or laws, or any alteration of existing laws, shall give notice of the same in writing to the Hon. Secretary at least one month prior to the Annual Meeting.

Benevolent Branch

15. The object of this branch is to benefit old soldiers of the Regiment who are deserving and in needy circumstances; and, if funds permit, also widows and children.

The way in which assistance is given must be left, to a great extent, to the Committee, according to the requirements of individual cases; and it is hoped that, as funds increase, it may be possible to assist under the following headings:—

(1) To give immediate temporary assistance in all cases of real need.

(2) To assist Non-Commissioned Officers and Men on leaving the Colours:—

- (*a*) To obtain employment.
- (*b*) In the expense of moving to take up work in a new part of the United Kingdom.
- (*c*) In emigrating to our Colonies, either by donation or loan.
- (*d*) With medical aid and weekly allowance in sickness.
- (*e*) In meeting funeral expenses.
- (*f*) In admittance to Convalescent Homes.

(3) To provide Cottage Homes for aged pensioners of the Regiment.

Digitized by Google

Applications for Assistance

16. All applications for assistance should be made to the Secretary of the Association, who shall cause inquiries to be made, and will afterwards submit the case to the Benevolent Committee.

THE REPRESENTATIVE BANNER OF THE 2nd BATTALION SHERWOOD FORESTERS

Before commencing the ordinary business of the Association, on the day of the Annual Dinner, 25th October, 1919, a special service was held at All Saints' Church, Derby, in order that the Banner which represented the 2nd Battalion Sherwood Foresters, at the Commemoration Service held in London on the 15th December, 1917, could be handed over to the Church authorities for safe keeping.

> "This Banner represented the 2nd Battalion the Sherwood Foresters (Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire Regiment) at the Commemoration Service held at the Albert Hall on the 15th December, 1917, in honour of the first seven divisions, the vanguard of the Army of the British Empire which went to France at the commencement of the Great War in 1914. The Battalion was in the 18th Brigade, 6th Division, and served throughout the war in France and Belgium, nobly upholding the high traditions of the Regiment."

With these words, Archdeacon Noakes received the Banner from the hands of R.S.M. C. Martin, M.C., D.C.M. (who was drum-major of the Battalion at the outbreak of the war), on behalf of the Church authorities.

Colonel H. C. Wylly, C.B., Colonel J. W. G. Roy, C.M.G., Major C. R. Mortimore, D.S.O., and Mr. Gunn participated in the ceremony, while the Mayor of Derby (Alderman W. Blews Robotham), Aldermen R. B. Chambers, G. Brigden, J. Hill, and other prominent gentlemen of Derby were present at the service.

It was a very appropriate suggestion on the part of Brig.-

Digitized by Google

Gen. P. Leveson-Gower, D.S.O., that a special invitation should be given to all Old Comrades to be present at this ceremony, and it is pleasing to note that there was a very good muster of them who took advantage of this opportunity of once more linking themselves with one of the Regular Battalions of to-day under such unique circumstances.

The whole of the arrangements for the service, and also for placing a Brass Tablet beneath the Banner when permanently fixed, were carried out by Colonel J. W. G. Roy, C.M.G.

A statement of the account is shown with the funds of the Association in this Report.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

THE Eighth Annual General Meeting was held in the Central Hall, Derby, on the afternoon prior to the Dinner, on the 25th October, 1919. Colonel J. W. G. Roy, C.M.G., presided, and was supported by Colonel H. C. Wylly, C.B., and Major C. R. Mortimore, D.S.O., and a good attendance of members.

The Meeting was opened by the Chairman, who gave a few particulars as to the steps taken to reorganise the Association after the war, and expressed the hope that what had been done would be successful, and that the future welfare of the Association would be assured. The financial position of the Association was good; there was a little difficulty, however, in knowing exactly where all the money was placed, but arrangements would be made to transfer all accounts to a bank at Derby, where the Association would open an account.

Major W. McGuire, who informed the Meeting that during the last five years he had been acting more or less in the capacity of official custodian for the Association, having received the accounts, etc., from the late Secretary, Lieut. and Q.M. A. Ewin, on mobilisation being ordered in August, 1914, submitted a financial statement of accounts, which showed a credit balance in various banks of £1296 1s. 5d., and cash in hand £6. It was pointed out, however, that these sums did not include amounts at Messrs. Cox & Co., nor had any reference to the sum of £993 previously invested by the Trustees, or any interest accruing from these investments.

Digitized by Google

After some little discussion, this statement was accepted, and Major McGuire thanked for the good service rendered.

Mr. Pollard, as Secretary of the Benevolent Committee, then submitted a statement relating to the Benevolent Fund, which, however, only referred to the latter part of 1914 and 1915. The credit balance of this fund in the hands of Mr. Pollard being £5 10s. 4d., this report was agreed to and accepted.

The Officers of the Association for the ensuing year were then elected.

It was agreed that the sum of £1000 be handed over to the Trustees, for investment.

The Meeting then proceeded to discuss proposals submitted by members of the Association :—

Submitted by Mr. Spencer, Chesterfield, *re* membership : "*That N.C. Officers and Men who have served in Battalions of the Sherwood Foresters (not Territorials) should be eligible for membership of the Old Comrades' Association (conscripts excepted).*"

Submitted by R.S.M. Martin, 1st Battalion : "*That membership be open to all Sherwood Foresters who enlisted prior to the Lord Derby Scheme, and since 11th November, 1918.*"

The Chairman ruled that these two proposals should be discussed and decided upon together, as relating to the same rule.

After considerable discussion, in which the feeling of the Meeting was strong on the point that it was impossible to exclude Territorials or conscripts, the following amendment was put by the Chairman :—

"*That Bye-law 3 should be so altered as to make it clear that Officers, Warrant Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers and Men are eligible for membership who have served or are serving in any Battalion of the Sherwood Foresters.*"

The amendment was proposed by Capt. J. W. Marriott, M.C., and seconded by R.S.M. Martin. Major McD. Needham and Mr. Gunn were appointed tellers. Result of voting : For, 45 ; against, 3.

The following proposals submitted by R.S.M. Martin, 1st Battalion, were dealt with as shown :—

"*That the headquarters of the Association be at the Barracks, Derby, for all correspondence and applications.*"—Carried.

Digitized by Google

THE LATE QUARTERMASTER EWIN,
D.C.M.

Facing page 120

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

"That the Secretary be paid, so as to devote his time to the interests of the Association."—Agreed that the Secretary and Treasurer receive a salary of £100 for this year. The matter to come under review at the next Annual General Meeting.

"That, being a non-political Association, application be made to General Byng's Committee on Army Funds for a grant of £10,000, as quoted in 'The Times' of 25th September, as 'Sherwood Foresters Grant.'"—Carried.

"That there be four Sub-Committees, with areas allotted, to report deserving cases to the Secretary, O.C.A., who can take the necessary action."—Agreed that the four stations be Nottingham, Mansfield, Chesterfield, Derby.

Proposed by Colonel J. W. G. Roy, C.M.G., and seconded by Colonel T. H. M. Green, D.S.O., "that a vote of thanks be given to Major W. McGuire, O.B.E., for all the good work he has done for the Association at all times, and also to Capt. Pollard for the good work and keen interest he has taken in the benevolent work of the Association."

The Secretary was instructed to write a letter of thanks to the Officer Commanding 11th Service Battalion Sherwood Foresters (Colonel H. Watson, C.M.G., D.S.O.), for the splendid gifts received by the Association from that Battalion.

The Meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to the presiding Chairman (Colonel J. W. G. Roy, C.M.G.).

REPORT OF THE BENEVOLENT COMMITTEE

THE work of this Committee was very seriously handicapped during the period of the war, but fortunately did not actually suspend its functions at any time during these years; and great credit is due to the members of the Committee at Nottingham who, under the leadership of Major M. McGuire, O.B.E., carried on under the most difficult circumstances, and it can easily be understood that under such circumstances it was not possible to tabulate the cases assisted as heretofore, the work done during this period consisting in supplying wreaths at the funerals of Old Comrades, whenever it was possible to do so. Since the last Annual Meeting the Committee have, however, resumed work under more normal

Digitized by Google

conditions, and each case is thoroughly investigated, and dealt with on its merits, to the fullest capacity permissible with available funds. The following cases have been disposed of:—

Number of cases dealt with, November and December, 1919 (8).

Temporary assistance given	5
Funeral expenses paid	1
Coal purchased	1
Rates paid	1
	8

List of Cases Assisted

	£	s.	d.
T.M.—Discharged medically unfit. Unable to work. Wife suffering from epileptic fits. Has drawn whole of savings from bank. (Grant)	2	0	0
E.C.—Widow of D.C., an old soldier and member of the Association. Assisted with help to meet funeral expenses	2	0	0
A.N.—Served twelve years. Suffering from heart disease; only able to work two or three days each week. Had previously been assisted. (Grant)	1	0	0
T.Q.—Served sixteen years. Aged 75 years. In possession of Abyssinian Medal. Applied for help to obtain few comforts for Christmas	1	0	0
B.B.—Widow of B.B. Given a load of coals to help through winter	1	11	3
J.A.—Died rather suddenly; had been in failing health, however, for long time. Was a member of the O.C.A. Left wife and seven children. Would have been buried as a pauper if the O.C.A. had not borne expenses of funeral. (Approval for this expense given by the Executive Committee)	5	13	0
J.B.—Widow of J.B., who served both prior to the war and during the war. Widow in great need of winter clothing for herself and children. (Case investigated by the Soldiers' and Sailors' Families Association) ..	3	0	0

Digitized by Google

	£	s.	d.
E.W.—Widow of ex-C.S. T.W. Served eighteen years prior to the war, and also re-enlisted August, 1915; discharged medically unfit, suffering from cancer. Died January, 1916. Widow assisted by rates being paid ..	3	0	0

EIGHTH ANNUAL DINNER

THERE was a fine spirit of Old Comradeship at the Dinner of the Association held on the evening of the 25th October, 1919, at the Royal Hotel, Derby. About 200 guests were present, and it was interesting to observe the officers, even during the routing of the various dishes, lean over their table and shake the warm hand of fellowship with the men at the tables adjoining; and afterwards, as an impromptu part of the post-prandial programme, mix up regardless of rank and recall the strenuous days of war (some well beyond the South African) and the pleasant amenities of garrison duty in our colonial climes. They were officers and men who have added glory to the Sherwood Foresters, grey-haired some of them, but possessing the ineffaceable marks of soldiers of character.

Lieut.-Gen. Sir Frederick C. Shaw, a Sherwood Forester, who now occupies the high position of Commander-in-Chief in Ireland, was to have presided, but he telegraphed his regret. Colonel H. C. Wylly, C.B., presided in his place, and other officers present, either in evening or service dress, were: Col. J. W. G. Roy, C.M.G., Col. F. H. Watson, D.S.O., Lt.-Col. Bromley Way, O.B.E., M.V.O., Lt.-Col. Keller, O.B.E., D.S.O., Lt.-Col. Sherbrooke, D.S.O., Lt.-Col. L. S. Gordon-Cumming, Lt.-Col. T. H. M. Green, D.S.O., Major Mortimore, D.S.O., Major Gilson, Major W. Seaton, M.C., D.C.M., Major J. H. Wybergh, Major R. Tyler, Major M. McGuire, O.B.E., Major S. R. Anley, Major J. N. Meares, Major H. B. Hume, Capt. Booker, Capt. Walker, D.C.M., Capt. Keith, Capt. Marriott, M.C., Capt. Troops, Capt. J. McD. Needham, Lieut. Johnson, Lieut. Benford, Lieut. Slaughter, Lieut. Bowring, and Lieut. Stephenson.

The Chairman, in his opening remarks, proposing the toast "The King," said that he should like to take this opportunity of asking their opinion as to the advisability of publish-

Digitized by Google

ing the *Sherwood Foresters' Annual*, as had been the custom before the war. General Sir Horace Smith-Dorrien had expressed a wish that the Annual should be published, but it was largely a question of the cost. Before the war the work could be done for £150; now it would cost £400, with a corresponding increase in the sale price. "Let us have it, all the same," was the general outcry, and the Chairman, heartily agreeing, said he would do his best to make it a success.

Valiant for Truth

The Chairman was movingly eloquent when proposing the toast of "Absent Friends." After referring to the comrades who were still in the flesh, but only with them in spirit, the speaker alluded to "those friends who through various wars have answered their names for the last time, those whose graves are scattered over the length and breadth of the four continents—America, India, China, South Africa, Spain, Portugal, the Mediterranean shores, the Crimea, and the bloody fields of France and Flanders. In drinking this toast, couple with it in your hearts the name of the comrades whose loss you miss most. At the same time, if you want a name which covers all, I think that Bunyan supplies it in his *Pilgrim's Progress*—Mr. Valiant for Truth—one who bore the marks and scars of warfare and who 'passed over, and all the trumpets sounded for him on the other side.'"

The Toast was honoured in silence.

Colonel Roy proposed the toast of "Old Comrades' Association" in felicitous terms, and remarked that now they had decided to admit to membership everyone who had served with the Sherwood Foresters, they could expect a much greater company at next year's function. He coupled with the toast the name of Major McGuire, who since Lieut. Ewin left for the front to meet a heroic death had done most of the work of the Association.

In the course of his response Major McGuire recalled the gallant work of the Foresters at Suvla Bay, "where there was no place safe from the enemy's fire," and where Lieut. Ewin died gloriously, with many others, whose memory they revered and mourned.

The toast to "Our Regiment" was honoured on the pro-

Digitized by Google

posal of ex-Bandmaster S. Howarth, and the band struck up the regimental marches in inspiring style.

After the honouring of "The Veterans," on the proposal of Lieut. Bowring, the junior serving officer present, the bright young spirits started the song, "Old Soldiers never die, they simply fade away"—happily received and laughed over by all.

The band of the 1st Battalion was in attendance, and, under the conductorship of Bandmaster A. H. Dewsall, rendered a splendid selection of music in ideal style. Q.M.S. T. Mason contributed a humorous interlude by singing "Who Killed Bill Kaiser?" (a parody of "Cock Robin"), and Lce.-Corpl. Milton excelled with the tenor solos, "Guardian Angel Mine" and "Nirvana."

Digitized by Google

FUNDS

GENERAL FUND.

Receipts.	£	s.	d.
Balance, Cash Credit from 1st Jan., 1914.. ..	38	9	7½
Subscriptions from 1st Jan., 1914, to 31st Dec., 1919	105	18	0
Sale of Dinner Tickets, Oct., 1919	55	18	0
Sale of Badges	3	17	6
Sale of Badges, 1914 ..	0	13	7
Sale of Photographs, 1914	0	3	0
Sale of Dinner Tickets, 1914	0	2	6
	£205	22½	

Expenditure.	£	s.	d.
1914.			
Clerical Assistance ..	1	0	0
Expenses, Benevolent Committee	6	0	0
Do.	0	10	3
Postage	11	13	0
Cheque Books	0	3	6
1915.			
Cheque Book	0	1	0
Receipt Forms ..	0	13	6
1917.			
Cheque Book	0	1	0
1919.			
Cheque Books	0	4	0
Advertisements ..	3	0	0
Cost of Badges.. ..	3	10	0
Carriage on Goods ..	0	1	6
Receipt Forms ..	0	0	10
Postage	5	8	3
Expenses, Committee Meetings	0	12	0
Expenses, Cpl. Taylor to Dinner*	0	8	0
Cost of Rosettes ..	0	12	0
Expenses, Cpl. Ballard to Dinner*	0	6	0½
Hire of Room for General Meeting	0	8	1
Cost of Printing ..	4	8	9
Cost of Dinner, 193 at 6/6	62	14	6
Dressing Room ..	0	2	6
Expenses of Band ..	0	16	8
Balance, Credit ..	102	6	10½
	£205	2	2½

* *Guests of the Association at the Annual Dinner, October, 1919.*

Digitized by Google

BENEVOLENT FUND.

CURRENT ACCOUNT.

RECEIPTS.	£	s.	d.	EXPENDITURE.	£	s.	d.
Balance, Cash Credit, 1st Jan., 1914	9	17	7½	1914. Amounts paid to Mr. Pollard	53	0	0
Subscriptions, 1914 ..	99	10	0	Expenses, Mr. Pegg ..	0	4	6
Subscriptions and Donations, 1914 to 1919 ..	1417	18	7	Secretary, Royal Infirmary, Derby	3	3	0
Bank Interest	12	19	0	Secretary, General Hospital, Nottingham ..	3	3	0
Balance of Banner A/c ..	12	17	4	1914 to 1919. Cases dealt with during the War	104	3	4
Refund of Grant to Prisoners' Comforts Fund, per Lady Smith-Dorrien	100	0	0	1919. Paid out by Benevolent Committee	6	15	10
				Grant to Prisoners' Comforts Fund	100	0	0
				Balance, Credit ..	1382	12	6½
Total	£1653	2	6½	Total	£1653	2	6½

TRUSTEES' ACCOUNT.

CREDIT.	£	s.	d.	DEBIT.	£	s.	d.
Cash in Bank, 1st Jan., 1914	7	0	8	Purchase of— £100 National War Bonds ..	100	0	0
Dividends paid, 1914 to 1918:— India 3½%	147	11	1	£25 National War Bonds	25	0	0
West Australian ..	19	18	0	Cash at Bank—Cox & Co.	56	16	10
National War Bonds	7	7	1				
	£181	16	10		£181	16	10

BALANCE SHEET.

ASSETS.	£	s.	d.	LIABILITIES.	£	s.	d.
£900 India 3½% Stock at cost	838	12	6	Balance Credit ..	1108	10	8
£94 17s. 4d. West Australian 3½% Stock at cost	88	1	4				
£100 National War Bonds	100	0	0				
£25 National War Bonds	25	0	0				
Cash at Cox & Co. ..	56	16	10				
	£1108	10	8		£1108	10	8

Digitized by Google

BANNER ACCOUNT.

Receipts.	£	s.	d.	Expenditure.	£	s.	d.
Mrs. Leveson Gower—Balance of Subscriptions	3	16	6	W. H. Haslam, Derby—Fixing Banner ..	1	13	6
Colonel Wylly—Balance of Funds for Memorial	7	11	0	Gawthorpe & Sons—Brass Plate	19	0	0
Regimental Agency, 33 Tothill Street—Balance 2nd Bn. Comforts Fund	32	3	4	Balance, to Benevolent Fund	12	17	4
	£33	10	10		£33	10	10

Digitized by Google

GENERAL BALANCE SHEET, 1914–1919.

ASSETS.

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Cash, Union & Provincial Bank, Derby	353 5 6	
,, Union & Provincial Bank, Newark	118 3 6	
,, London City & Midland Bank, Derby	13 12 10	
,, London City & Midland Bank, Derby (awaiting investment by Trustees)	1000 0 0	
,, in hand, Secretary and Treasurer	2 14 5	
,, Messrs. Cox & Co.	56 16 10	
,, in hand, Capt. Pollard (late Secretary, Benevolent Committee)	*5 10 4	
		1550 3 5
£900 India 3½% Stock at cost ..	838 12 6	
£94 17s. 4d. West Australian 3½% Stock at cost	88 1 4	
£100 National War Bonds	100 0 0	
£25 ,, ,, ,, ...	25 0 0	
		1051 13 10
Value of Stock (Typewriter) ..		12 12 0
Total ..		£2614 9 3

* NOTE.—*Since received and credited to the Benevolent Fund.*

LIABILITIES.

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Credit of General Fund	102 6 10½	
,, Benevolent Fund ..	1382 12 10½	
		1484 19 9
Cash received for Photographs ..		2 16 6
Credit of Account, Cox & Co. ..	56 16 10	
,, Trustees' Account ..	1051 13 10	
		1108 10 8
,, Benevolent Fund (1915)		5 10 4
Value of Stock (Typewriter) ..		12 12 0
Actual Credit of Association ..		£2614 9 3

Audited and found correct, this 18th day of December, 1919.

(Signed) H. STEPHENSON, *Lieut. and Adjt., Depot, Sherwood Foresters.*

A. HALLAM, *Ex-Colour-Sergeant.*

J. H GLOVER, *Secretary and Treasurer.*

Digitized by Google

RULES FOR THE COTTAGE HOMES OF THE NOTTS AND DERBYSHIRE REGIMENT

1. The cottages will be known as "THE NOTTINGHAMSHIRE AND DERBYSHIRE REGIMENTAL COTTAGE HOMES," in memory of H.R.H. Prince Christian Victor of Schleswig-Holstein.

2. The cottages will be allotted to men who have served in the Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire Regiment.

3. In selecting candidates for the occupancy, preference will be given to men who have been—

(1) Disabled by service in the South African War.
(2) Disabled on active service, either by wounds or illness.
(3) Injured or incapacitated by illness while serving, not on active service.
(4) Incapacitated by age or otherwise.

4. The Trustees for the buildings, together with the Commanding Officers for the time being of the 45th Regimental District of the Line and Militia Battalions, and the two senior Commanding Officers of the Volunteer Battalions, shall form a Committee of Management, whose authority to select candidates, appoint visitors, and carry out all matters connected with the care and management of the Homes shall be final.

5. The following will be paid by the Committee out of the Endowment Funds :—

(1) Rates levied by the local authorities.
(2) Insurance to building.
(3) Ordinary repairs to building.
Gas will not be paid for.

6. The cottages will be open to inspection at any time by the Committee or appointed visitors.

No cottage, or portion of it, is to be sublet by any occupant.

The occupant must keep the cottage in a cleanly state.

All damage caused wilfully, or by gross neglect, or misuse, must be made good by the occupant.

No retail trade to be carried on, or articles exposed for sale in the windows.

Digitized by Google

7. The Committee have power at any time to terminate the occupancy with two months' notice to the occupier. In the event of gross misconduct on the part of the occupiers, the occupancy may be terminated with one week's notice. If the Committee consider the circumstances of the occupant do not justify his continued occupancy, he will be required to vacate.

If any occupant wishes to give up the cottage, he must give the Committee one month's notice. On the death of an occupant his widow and family will be required to vacate the cottage occupied by them within two months from the date of his death.

8. Notices and Reports should be sent to—

The President,
Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire Regimental
Cottage Homes Committee,
Normanton Barracks, Derby.

9. The interest of the money invested for the maintenance of the cottages will be disbursed by the Committee in accordance with Rule 5. Any sum remaining over after meeting these expenses may be utilized by the Committee during the following year for the benefit of the occupant, or accumulated towards further requirements.

The year commences on 1st April and ends 31st March.

10. When a candidate has been selected by the Committee, he will be furnished with two copies of these Rules, and before he will be permitted to occupy the cottage he shall return one to the Committee, signed by himself, stamped and attested, as agreeing to be bound by the Rules.

As the Committee will do everything in their power to promote the comfort of occupants and their families, they hope that occupants will do their best to keep up and promote the good name of the Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire Regiment.

The Mayflower Press, Plymouth, England. William Brendon & Son, Ltd.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

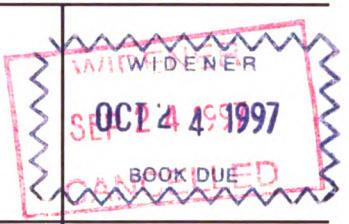
Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

3 2044 019 997 733

THE BORROWER WILL BE CHARGED AN OVERDUE FEE IF THIS BOOK IS NOT RETURNED TO THE LIBRARY ON OR BEFORE THE LAST DATE STAMPED BELOW. NON-RECEIPT OF OVERDUE NOTICES DOES NOT EXEMPT THE BORROWER FROM OVERDUE FEES.

Harvard College Widener Library
Cambridge, MA 02138 (617) 495-2413



Digitized by Google